MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

18 NOVEMBER 1982

Lebanon

Saudi Backing -- President Amin al-Jumayyil told the Cabinet that Saudi Arabia has expressed support for Lebanon in all matters, particularly the withdrawal of Israeli and all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon, Beirut radio reported. According to Voice of Lebanon radio, Saudi King Fahd has accepted an invitation from Al-Jumayyil to visit Lebanon at the earliest opportunity.

Security Situation -- Christian and Druze militia continued to exchange sniper fire in 'Alayh despite the Israeli curfew on the town, Jerusalem radio reported. The Beirut-Damascus highway and local roads in the Ash-Shuf hills were closed to traffic and the Israelis sent reinforcements into the region, according to Jerusalem and Voice of Lebanon radios. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon later reported that the Israelis have arrested nine Druze for their part in the 8 November attack on a Christian funeral procession at Kafr Nabrakh.

Haddad Testimony -- "Free Lebanon" Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad told the Israeli commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre that his soldiers were not in Beirut at the time of the massacre and that former Lebanese Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam falsely accused Haddad's militia of the killings after being told by Saudi Arabia to cover up the true perpetrators, IDF radio reported. Haddad said his men wear the same uniform as the Phalangists, because it comes from "the same restaurant."

Syria

Talks With Congressmen, Al-Jumayyil -- Syria has submitted several inquiries to the U.S. administration about President Ronald Reagan's peace plan and has also submitted other inquiries about the results of the Arab seven-member delegation's visit to Washington, President Hafiz al-Asad informed a visiting U.S. congressional delegation in remarks reported by Damascus radio. Syria wants peace "but we must first guarantee the availability of its elements," Al-Asad continued. The Syrian leader stressed that Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the rights of the Palestinian people are not negotiable issues. Asserting that peace is possible only if "compatibility" exists between the antagonists, Al-Asad told the congressmen that the continuation of U.S. aid to Israel prevents such compatibility and encourages Israel to continue its "aggression" and defiance of U.S. public opinion.

President al-Asad subsequently discussed bilateral issues in a telephone conversation with Lebanese President al-Jumayyil, SANA reported. According to Beirut radio, Al-Asad expressed gratification for Al-Jumayyil's current political moves.

Talas on Syrian Strength -- Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas declared that Syria is now stronger than at any time before in terms of weapons and will to fight the enemy, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

PLO

Addressing graduates of a PLO military course in Syria, PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir said on 16 November that the Palestinians' battle with Israel is continuing and that no Palestinian militant will recognize Israel as long as it tries to usurp Palestinian rights, KUNA reported. Al-Wazir asserted that military operations against Israeli troops in Lebanon are the answer to those who claim that the Palestinian revolution has resorted to the political option. The Palestinian Revolution will never give up armed struggle, he vowed.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Addressing a news conference in Paris, Jordan's King Husayn reiterated that a comprehensive Middle East peace cannot be achieved unless the palestinians are given a "leading role" in the peace negotiations, KUNA reported. The Monarch added that he favors "some form of mutual recognition" between Israel and the Palestinians. However, Amman radio noted that King Husayn also condemned Israel's expansionist tendency during the news conference and asserted that Israel is hampering efforts to achieve a peaceful settlement. Kuna stated that King Husayn will head the seven-member Arab League delegation to Moscow and Beijing in early December.

Israel

Prime Minister Menahem Begin told an Egyptian special envoy that he wants to meet President Husni Mubarak after the end of his mourning period for 'Aliza Begin, MA'ARIV reported.

Iraq

The formation of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq was announced in Tehran by the council's spokesman, Tehran radio reported. The spokesman said the council's goals include continuing the crusade against the Iraqi regime, forming an Islamic government in Iraq and supporting Iran as the base of the global Islamic revolution. The group considers itself the sole vehicle for liberating the Iraqi people and says that its future form and leadership in Iraq will be determined only by the Muslim people of Iraq.

Iran

Government forces liberated 15 km of the Sar Dasht-Mahabad road and completely cleared 15 villages of "counterrevolutionaries," Tehran radio claimed. The clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio contradicted earlier Tehran radio reports that the Kurdish Democratic Party's radio station was destroyed. The government forces destroyed one transformer, not the transmitter; while the radio cannot be heard throughout the country, it continues to broadcast and can be heard in the border areas, the Free Voice of Iran added.

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KHALIL AL-WAZIR: PLO LEFT ONLY MILITARY OPTION

LD172002 Kuwait KUNA in English 1634 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Damascus, Nov 17 (KUNA) -- The deputy commander-in-chief of the forces of the Palestinian Revolution, Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], Tuesday [16 November], addressed a graduation ceremony for the first milltary refresher course for cadre of the Palestinian General Command unit which has been held since the Palestinian fighters left Beirut. Abu Jihad emphasized that the Palestinian Revolution is only left with the military option which necessitates the continuation of training, preparing and equipping the Palestinian fighters.

He said that the military option was primary because "our battle with the Zionist enemy is continuing and because the aggressive nature of the enemy forces us into this bettle." Abu Jihad was speaking at the Sa'ad Sayel military training camp in Syria, the Palestinian News Agency (WAFA) reported Wednesday.

Abu Jihad called upon the Arab nation to raise the banner of armed struggle through which it can reunite and regenerate the determination to liberate the occupied homeland. He said that Palestinian national unity was demonstrated in the training course and that Palestinian unity was the main weapon the safeguard the continuation of the revolution, WAFA added.

He stated that Syria and the Palestinian Revolution together face the same threat from the aggressive and expansionist intentions of the Israeli enemy.

He further warned that Israeli aggression threatens the whole Arab nation. He called for the closing of Palestinian-Syrian ranks and for strengthening bilateral relations. He rejected the spirit of capitulation and retreat which the enemy is trying to impose on the Arab nation through schemes like Camp David accords, WAFA continued.

The Palestinian executive dismissed allegations that the PLO has authorized this or that Arab country to speak in its name. He said that the Palestinian Revolution has been baptized in blood to become the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He said the Palestinian people will never cede this achievement for a moment, WAFA further said.

Abu Jihad stressed that no Palestinian militant will recognize the Israeli enemy as long as the enemy continues to pursue aggression and attempts to usurp the rights of the Palestinian people.

"We carry arms to express rejection of the Israeli aggressive existence and for the sake of liberation and repatriation," WAFA quoted Abu Jihad as saying.

Finally, Abu Jihad said that the dispersal of Palestinian fighters was a source of strength and not of weakness. He noted that military operations against the Israeli invading troops in Lebanon are the answer to those who claim that the Palestinian Revolution has resorted to the political option. Abu Jihad vowed that the Palestinian Revolution will never give up armed struggle which is the main option through which the revolution represents the will of the Palestinian people.

PLO BUREAU: PNC TO MEET IN ALGIERS DEC OR JAN

NC172007 Paris AFP in English 2001 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Paris, Nov 17 (AFP) -- The Palestine National Council (parliament) will meet in Algiers at the end of December or in early January, the Palestine Liberation Organization Bureau in Paris announced today.

The bureau said the date for the meeting had not yet been definitively set.

ISRAEL BARS PNC MEMBERS FROM LEAVING TERRITORY

JN161752 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Reports from the occupied territory say that recently the Zionist occupation authorities have adopted several repressive measures against certain Palestinian figures to prevent them from leaving the occupied territory to attend the 16th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC].

It will be recalled that the PLO has increased the number of seats allocated to the representatives of the occupied territory to 180 in the forthcoming session.

Meanwhile, reports say the PNC meeting has been postponed for a short time to allow all members from inside and outside the occupied territory to attend.

'ARAFAT RETURNS TO TUNIS FROM BREZHNEV FUNERAL

LD171906 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Abu Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces, and the accompanying delegation returned to Tunis yesterday evening from Moscow after attending the funeral of the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

During his stay in Moscow brother leader Abu Ammar conducted a series of talks with prominent Soviet leaders on the latest developments in the Palestinian issue and the forthcoming visit of the Arab League delegation to the Soviet Union.

In Moscow Brother Abu Ammar also met Cuban President Fidel Castro and reviewed with him the comprehensive situation and Palestinian-Cuban relations. The Cuban president asserted his country's firm and supportive stance toward the Palestinian issue and the rights of the Palestinian people led by the PLO, its sole legitimate representative. He also affirmed Cuba's unlimited support for the Palestinian Revolution in its legitimate struggle to establish the Palestinian state on its national soil.

PLO ENVOY: REGULAR ARMY SYSTEM TO BE ADOPTED

NC180916 Istanbul GUNAYDIN in Turkish 15 Nov 82 pp 4, 14

[Text] PLO Representative in Turkey Abu Firaz has stated that the Palestinian state will be formed without the Palestinians having to kneel before the United States. Stating that following the Beirut massacre the United States expected them to kneel before it, Abu Firaz added that this will not happen and that a Palestinian state will be established in Jordan in the near future.

In a statement to GUNAYDIN, Abu Firaz asserted that the Palestinians will continue their struggle until they achieve their objective. He added: "We are fighting to defend our lives and retrieve our fatherland. We do not possess even an inch of land on which to bury our dead. They think we do not deserve even this much. This is why we are up in arms."

Stating that from now on they will abandon guerrilla warfare and adopt an organized regular army system, Abu Firaz continued: "We are going to equip our army, which will be set up in various centers, with heavy arms. Our army will possess every form of military strength from amored units to aircraft."

Abu Firaz then expressed his gratitude for the sincere concern Turkey has always shown, he continued: "Despite all the bitter aspects of the Beirut massacre, its only positive aspect has been the emergence of the truth that the PLO did not shelter Armenian or Turkish terrorists. This allegation was denied in a statement by Begin himself.

"The Israelis had maintained that there were Turkish terrorists in Palestinian camps. However, I had stated that we found that these Turks were in European countries and not in Lebanon. I told the Turkish authorities that if the contrary were proved, I would leave Turkey in 2 days. But as you see, I am still in your country. The truth of my statement was quickly verified."

MOSCOW INTERVIEWS 'ARAFAT ON LEBANON, OBJECTIVES

For an interview with Yasir 'Arafat during his visit to Moscow to attend Brezhnev's funeral, carried by Moscow in Arabic to the Arab world at 1500 GMT on 16 November, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 17 November Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

BAHRAIN

AMIR INTERVIEWED ON GCC AFFAIRS, LEBANON, FES PLAN

PM170809 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 9 Nov 82 pp 10, 11

[Interview with Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah by Ayman Habib in Manama -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Highness Shaykh 'Isa, some people still regard the GCC as a bloc against other powers. Others, without good will, see it as a secession from the Arab League and a blow to Arab solidarity.

[Answer] Anyone who says such things either bears a grudge against the Gulf states and is therefore unhappy about the achievements of these states under this good body [the GCC] or is afraid of the strength of this entity, which is based on sound foundations and rejects all forms of connivance. This is why we must not pay any attention to such false claims.

[Question] There are those who claim that there is no full agreement among our states and who doubt that such a degree of agreement can be achieved.

[Answer] As I said, those people base their claims on different experiences and make erroneous judgments on the basis of false evaluations of events and developments. What we know here in Bahrain is that what has been achieved is more than the length of the experiment might indicate. To be fair, we should not talk about any negative aspects of the experiment because it is unnatural for an independent state with a long history to merge with a new united entity in a few years, and it is unnatural to entirely dispense with the existence of a country with its characteristics and circumstances which might be somewhat different from the others. It is unnatural to ask the Gulf states to accelerate more than necessary their movement toward unity or federation because our objective is bigger and more far-reaching than just coming up with superficial formula to give the impression that the Gulf states are united and in agreement.

We have agreed within the GCC not to pay attention to the time element as long as we take the right steps and work with confidence, cooperation and sincerity for the fulfillment of the collective objectives. We are not in a hurry and we do not want to come out with a statement tomorrow talking about unity among our states without any strong foundations. As we meet in Bahrain today, we emphasize to the world that we do not give so much thought to form as we do to thoroughly and carefully studying every step, taking into consideration all the circumstances and consequences. We do not care if the study takes a long time or a short time as long as we have real and effective cooperation.

What has been achieved so far confirms the opposite of what those people claim. Nobody knows of any similar experiment under which many difficulties were surmounted and several important steps taken in such a record time as in the case of the six Arab Gulf states.

[Question] What about the security and economic agreements?

[Answer] There is steady progress, as in other areas.

[Question] Do you not think, Your Highness, that the tendentious news agencies have given the impression that the GCC states are in disagreement over some fundamental issues?

[Answer] We are well aware of the motives of the tendentious media and their determination to distort or undermine any successful work.

We also know that the aim of any efforts to unify the regimes of the GCC states is to ensure that there are sufficient grounds for getting together and achieving integration.

[Question] Your Highness, could you talk to us about the nature of the dangers the states of the region anticipate and seek to avoid?

[Answer] I want to explain an extremely important point. The GCC states are formulating an integrated and consistent strategy based on their knowledge of the needs of their people and the factors guaranteeing permanent security and stability. Therefore, looking left and right at what is around us should not give the impression that the Gulf states anticipate a particular danger and are trying to avoid it. No, the Gulf states are seeking to achieve intrinsic power enabling them to deal with any present or future danger. In other words, what we are doing now is trying to detect the dangers and to search for the best way to confront them. We are preparing ourselves for the worst.

So, linking developments in the region to our meetings is pointless, because it means that the Gulf states only react and do not move on the basis of specific principles and clear overall strategic long-term objectives. Those people do not understand our states and they do not know the people of the Gulf. They do not appreciate our interest in making a real and great achievement. We excuse them but we cannot excuse the people of the region.

[Question] What is the situation regarding defense coordination, especially in the field of armament?

[Answer] Everything is going well. The region's states should be pleased with this not because it is a cause for optimism, but because it is a clear indication that we have made up our minds to be strong and rightly so.

[Question] Your Highness Shaykh 'Isa, do the Gulf states expect any particular foreign threat, and, if so, from where?

[Answer] The Gulf states would be wrong not to expect such a threat because it would mean that they are living in a state of false security which could have grave consequences. However, what is important is not the expectation as such. What is important is to have done what our responsibilities dictate so as to be ready for immediate confrontation.

[Question] Your Highness, do you have any concept in mind regarding solutions to the Lebanese problems and support for the PLO?

[Answer] This is no longer the time for just having concepts. It is our duty to do something to ensure Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and to give the Lebanese authorities ample opportunity to exercise full control over Lebanon. We in the Gulf region support Lebanon and the PLO. These are two basic elements in the equation for the region's security and stability, that is if the others really want stability to prevail.

[Question] I would like to ask you about GCC expectations regarding the current dialogue between the Arabs and the United States and the UN Security Council member states. Do you expect the outstanding issues to be resolved?

[Answer] The Arabs have made their statement in Fes. The seven-member committee is making great efforts to promote the Fes principles. At any rate, the efforts are continuing and we hope that they will result in something beneficial to the cause. We should wait a while to see the outcome.

[Question] Your Highness, are you optimistic on this matter?

[Answer] I tend to be optimistic under all circumstances. What is more important than optimism is that the momentum should continue, because optimism is meaningless if there is no movement. Anyway, the GCC is well aware of what is happening and we beseech Almighty God to grant this nation success.

KUWAIT

FOREIGN MINISTER ON GCC EFFORTS TO END GULF WAR

LD171252 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1209 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 17 Nov (KUNA) -- A prominent Kuwaiti official today said that the six Arab GCC states and all the states of the Gulf region are concerned about putting a halt to the Iraq-Iran war.

This official, Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Information Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, said "the desire of the council's states and the states of the region to stop the Iraq-Iran war stems from the fact that its continuation harms the country [al-balad]. Moreover, its continuation is not in the interests of the states of the region or the interest of worl peace."

Shaykh Sabah was replying to a question about press reports which spoke of [words indistinct] and Saudi Arabia are to contact the great powers, especially the United States and the Soviet Union, to convince Iran to halt the war.

Shaykh Sabah yesterday received the ambassadors of the European Common Market and discussed with them some topics, including the Iraq-Iran war.

TOPICS OF TALKS WITH SAUDI OIL MINISTER REPORTED

GF180635 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 18 Nov 82 p 15

[Text] Kuwait -- The oil ministers of Kuwait and Saudi Arabia met yesterday during a visit here by the Saudi minister which Gulf oil analysts said would be used to discuss the crisis facing OPEC.

Gulf states last month issued an implied threat to engage other members of the 13-nation exporter group in a price-cutting war.

The analysts said Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah and the Saudi minister, Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, would probably discuss plans to change the venue of an OPEC bargaining session.

OMAN

SULTAN RELEASES 51 PRISONERS ON NATIONAL DAY

GF180416 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2020 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Muscat, 17 Nov (WAKH) -- Sultan Qabus of Oman has issued a decree releasing 51 prisoners on the occasion of the sultanate's celebration of its national day.

The decree will be put into effect tomorrow.

SAUDI ARABIA

OIL MINISTER YAMANI RETURNS FROM KUWAIT VISIT

LD171736 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh, 17 Nov (SPA) -- Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of oil and mineral resources, returned to Riyadh this evening from Kuwait following a short visit there.

During the visit, his excellency delivered a message from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Azia to his brother, His Excellency Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the sister State of Kuwait.

'RESPONSIBLE SOURCE' CITED ON AL-JUMAYYIL VISIT

LD171354 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The visit by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to the kingdom and his talks with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz achieved fruitful results which will have beneficial effects on the two countries in particular, and the Arab world in general, a responsible source said.

He said the talks have confirmed the special importance the kingdom attaches to fraternal Lebanon, its backing of Lebanon's cause and its efforts to strengthen the rescue process and to bring about stability.

The source added that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's remarks before his departure from the kingdom on the form of understanding and support he met with in the kingdom confirms the particular attention his majesty the king gives to the Lebanese question. The press communique released after the Lebanese president's visit to the kingdom is clear enough in this respect.

The source stressed that the explanations given by some media on the objectives of this visit contradict the facts and do not accord with reality. These are, regrettably, explanations given according to their whims. He said that the encounter between the king and his excellency the Lebanese president was fruitful and useful in that it will consolidate the fraternal ties and prompt an intensification of efforts at all Arab and international levels, efforts that will achieve Arab interests, God willing.

RIYADH COMMENTS ON ARAB SUPPORT FOR LEBANON

LD151830 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Hashim Abdu Hashim commentary]

[Excerpts] When Lebanese officials -- at the forefront of whom is President Amin al-Jumayyil -- unanimously agree that Lebanon will become free with the help of His Majesty King Fahd, it strengthens our determination to spare nothing of our energy for this dear country -- people, land, independence and sovereignty.

We look objectively at the situation in Lebanon from both angles, Arab and Palestinian, in the hope that Lebanon will achieve security, stability and sovereignty, while at the same time retaining its Arab identity, bypassing calamities and overcoming the huge pressures under which it is living. The Lebanese situation is so critical, difficult and delicate that it calls for wisdom and rationality as well as caution and sincerity in tackling its problems, supported by sincere and honest intentions in allowing it to achieve stability and tranquillity.

We recognize that it is the right of the Lebanese people to enjoy full freedom. We also recognize their right to life and to practice their full rights. We see great possibilities in all this being achieved within Arab interests, which depend on a unanimous commitment to the Palestinian cause. It is a commitment the brothers in Lebanon have been keen to affirm on every occasion; they have shown great understanding to work within its framework because of their conviction that the fateful issues are indivisible and that what befalls any Arab country concerns not it alone but all other Arab countries.

These concepts, which resulted from the Lebanese president's visit to the kingdom, confirm more than one important fact at this time.

These facts are: First, Lebanon is passing through a critical phase of difficult circumstances. Without the help of its Arab brothers, they are unable to cope.

Second, the real support for this country -- which is under hateful occupation -- is represented by enabling it to extend its full sovereignty within the framework of Lebanese laws and regulations, and by the interest taken by the legitimate authorities.

Third, the numerous pressures to which Lebanon is subjected calls for a supportive Arab stand to enable it to make a long-term defense until it recovers all its territory.

Fourth, the Israelis are bartering over Lebanon. Lebanon rejects any form of concessions. It cannot succeed in its rejection if it does not rest on a stable internal situation with continuous, open and unconditional Arab support.

Fifth, tackling the situation in Lebanon could be confined in the first stage to getting rid of the military forces on its territory so that it could fully carry out its Arab role under mutual intentions of trust and concern over the unity and independence of Lebanon.

Sixth, the Palestinian question is a major and important part of Arab Lebanon's commitment. The Palestinian brothers, as other Arab brothers, have to help Lebanon achieve strength so that it will attain the level of this commitment.

We need not emphasize the fact that Lebanon's future and its Arabism are one and the same, and that this is a Lebanese and Arab responsibility. To stand at the side of Lebanon is necessary, and joining it immediately in shouldering the burdens of the current phase is a necessary step.

SOVIETS URGED TO CHANGE AFGHANISTAN POLICY

LD180930 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0735 GMT 18 Nov 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 18 Nov (SPA) -- The paper AL-JAZIRAH has called on the Kremlin leaders to change their strategic policy, which is based on coercion, wrongdoing and aggression and which threatens the future of the small Third World states and peoples, particularly after the military invasion of Afghanistan.

AL-JAZIRAH says that the new Soviet leader must respect the Afghan resistance, recognize its humanitarian, nationalist and religious character and place this at the forefront of his priorities and considerations concerning his country's foreign relations, especially with the Third World.

He must also reexamine the old strategy of his predecessor and build his own strategy on the basis of respect for the rights of the developing states and peoples to freedom, independence and national sovereignty, and freedom to choose their own political and economic system without being coerced or forced to accept what they would not want, as is the case now in Afghanistan.

The paper underscores the failure of Soviet attempts under the late President Brezhnev to apply the communist ideology fully and in the shortest time possible on a Muslim state and a Muslim people -- the state of Afghanistan and the people of Afghanistan whose mujahidin sons are resisting with faith in God, in Islam, in the homeland and with arms in order to deliver their country and themselves from a fate they reject.

The paper stresses that states and peoples in the Third World do not dislike the Soviet Union out of love for its opponents and vice versa, but they befriend those who stand on the side of their fateful issues and who back their heroic struggles for legitimate human and national rights.

RIYADH ASSAILS CONTINUED IRANIAN OFFENSIVES

GF171430 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Nov 82

[News analysis by Jasir 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Jasir]

[Text] The Iranian regime continues its aggression against Iraq. After a series of attacks, which did not achieve anything, yesterday Iran launched two more offensives which did not achieve anything except a great number of wounded and POW's for its forces, which are sent to the war without any humane or even military respect.

Military experts follow with great astonishment the military tactics used by the Iranians in their battles with Iraq and the great number of personnel they lose in each battle. In the battle that took place in the Maysan Governorate a few days ago, the Iranians lost about 21,000 dead with many thousands wounded and in return captured a piece of land only 5 km wide and 1 km deep.

The result of this single battle reveals to what extent the Iranian regime ignores the souls of the Iranian people as if through their insistence on launching such losing battles, they are undertaking a suicidal game whose pawns are the Iranian people.

Those who follow the military communiques and reported casualty figures, particularly those on the Iranian side, see how this regime ignores the safety of its people who are responsible for their leadership; the Iranian regime, by insisting on continuing the war, whose results have proved to be abortive during the battles over the last 3 months, have sacrificed about 60,000 dead, of whom 28,000 were in the Basra sector alone, and 21,000 in the Maysan sector and with similar figures in the Mandali sector. This great number of victims and losses has resulted in no military gain for the Iranian regime. The invading Iranian forces did not advance more than a few kilometers in the Maysan sector. Even the land that it occupied does not constitute, in military terms, any profit or strategic gain.

Despite all these facts, the Iranian regime still insists on continuing the war and on committing crimes which not only harm the Arab nation by involving one of its countries, but also harms the Iranian people who lose their sons by the thousands, sending them to their deaths without being able to refuse because they would face charges of treason against the homeland, a homeland which the Khomeyni regime betrays daily by continuing its aggression.

Further Commentary

GF161408 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Nov 82

[News analysis by 'Ali 'Abdallah al-Mani']

[Text] Despite the repeated losses sustained by the forces of the Iranian regime in their desperate efforts to cross the international border of its neighbor Iraq in the Basra and Mandali sectors, the ayatollahs' regime repeated these attempts in a third sector, the Maysan sector.

The persistence of the Iranian regime in its aggression against Iran confirms that the Iranian regime is still the captive of its illusions and has an evil propensity for aggression. Whatever flimsy justifications the Iranian regime fabricates for its continued conflict with Iraq, its principal aim has become well-known to all: It is to divert the attention of the Muslim Iranian people away from their domestic problems which are exacerbating daily, and to preoccupy the Iranian Army so that it will not be able to carry out its task of defending Iran and eliminating the tyranny and corruption that have become widespread throughout Iran ever since Khomeyni's bloody regime took office in Iran.

Although the Iranian forces have been able to penetrate 5 km inside Iraq, they suffered further losses in men and material. Iranian losses in the Maysan sector are estimated at about 12,000 dead and many tanks and great quantities of military hardware. Reports say that the Iraqi forces have succeeded in besieging the Iranian force that crossed the Iraqi border in the Maysan sector, emasculating it and preventing it from escaping. Official information and press reports all say that the Iranian forces are totally besieged in the area they have entered with nowhere to move inside the Iraqi border, and that Iraq continues to have the military initiative and is tightening its control over the situation awaiting the orders of the General Command to purge Iraqi territory.

Observers have expressed the belief that the Iraqi forces are preparing to carry out operations that will lead once again to their capture of Iranian territory and perhaps also Iranian cities. Observers base their belief on two indicators: First, the Iraqi president's declaration on 9 November that fighting until victory is the only way to inflame [tafjir] the Iranian situation and consequently to bring the two countries closer to peace. Second, the series of meetings which the Iraqi president is holding with the fighters of the IV Corps to familiarize himself firsthand with the details of the battles fought by the corps.

Observers of the progress of the battles and those who followed the official communiques and the films screened by Baghdad television and statements of military commanders, note that the Iraqi command has continued its implementation of a plan, tailored to the conditions of each battle, that seeks to draw the Iranian forces in to a specific area in order to inflict heavy losses on them in men and materiel, and consequently to exhaust them and paralyze their actions in the future. Observers do not rule out the possibility that the fate of the Iranian forces that crossed the Iraqi border over the bodies of 12,000 Iranian soldiers will be the same fate as that of the forces thrown in by the Tehran regime east of Basra and Mandali -- forces that were burned to ashes by the fire of the Iraqi fighters.

COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER MEETS CHADIAN OFFICIAL

LD171382 Riyadh SPA in English 1219 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Riyadh, Nov 17 (SPA) -- Chad's Housing and Petroleum Minister Hussein Moussa [title and name as received] today conferred with Saudi Communications Minister Husayn al-Mansuri on the kingdom's possible help to Chad in the field of transportation and communications.

Following the meeting, Mr al-Mansuri expressed the kingdom's readiness to extend the needed help to Chad.

Mr Moussa is currently on an official visit to Saudi Arabia.

INDUSTRY MINISTER ON GCC, SAUDI PLANS

GF170523 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 15 Nov 82 p 4

[Text] Manama -- Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Dr Ghazi al-Qusaybi said yesterday that the industry ministers of the six-member Arab Gulf Cooperation Council [AGCC] would meet regularly to discuss joint industrial coordination plans.

In a statement to the Bahraini AL-ADWA' daily, the Saudi minister disclosed that intensified efforts were currently being undertaken to work out a comprehensive marketing stretegy for the region.

The industry ministers of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Oman, Bahrain and Qatar are at present preparing a working programme for the Gulf industry with the aim of making the factories in the region complementary to one another, Dr Qusaybi said.

He added that with the implementation of the unified economic agreement, the real step for the creation of a Gulf common market, would be taken and such a market would be a giant boost for the industrial development in the region.

Dr al-Qusaybi disclosed that AGCC committees are currently discussing the possibility of linking the electricity networks of the council's member states, unifying the electricity prices and the exchange of technical and economic data in the field of electricity and utilising the training centres available in the region.

The AGCC is at present studying the possibility of setting up a centre for technological research, the Saudi minister said.

Dr al-Qasaybi said there were 1,300 factories in Saudi Arabia at present. He hoped the figure would rise to 1,500 by the end of the five-year development plan.

In two years' time we have reduced our dependence on foreign markets and achieved self-sufficiency in several domains, such as iron ore, steel, cement and food products, he added.

He also said basic industries has now entered the production phase, with cement, iron ore and other plants expected to start production this year.

Dealing with power generation, the Saudi minister said by the end of the current five-year development plan electricity would have reached rural areas and small villages.

He said two villages were already using solar energy for electricity.

We added that it was necessary to find other alternatives of energy, including nuclear energy.

UAE

PRESIDENT CABLES OMANI SULTAN, PDRY CHAIRMAN

GF171231 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has sent two congratulatory cables to His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman and President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, on the occasion of the ratification of the declaration of principles which was reached recently between the two countries. In his cables, his highness expressed his sincere heartfelt congratulations on this agreement, which is regarded a blessed step toward reinforcing the fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries. He added that this agreement will work effectively toward ensuring the stability of the region in order to [achieve] development and progress.

VISITING IRANIAN OFFICIAL CONTINUES TALKS

Meets With Heir Apparent

GF171204 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] His Highness Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the armed forces, has expressed the concern of the UAE president, government and people over developments in the painful war taking place between Iraq and Iran. This was noted when his highness received Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, the Iranian deputy foreign minister for political affairs, at his palace in Al-Khalidiyyah today. The meeting was attended by Surur ibn Muhammad, head of the UAE president's court.

WAM has learned that His Highness Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid emphasized to the Iranian envoy the stance of the UAE, which is based on the need to end this war and to respond immediately to the efforts to restore peace to the region, since this war does not serve the interests of the Arab and the Islamic nations in general. Moreover, this war wastes the capabilities of the two countries. His Highness Lt Gen Shaykh Khalifah announced that the UAE is making an effort to end this war out of the sincere belief and firm faith that forging security and stability in this vital part of the world serves the interests of the region peoples of the region in the first place besides this is reflected on the confort of the international community as a whole. His Highness also called for all-out efforts to end the war particularly by the Islamic Conference Organization, the conference of the nonaligned countries, the United Nations and all peace-loving peoples.

The audience, which lasted about 1 hour, was attended by 'Abd ar-Rajman al-Jarwan, Foreign Affairs Ministry under secretary, and Abolhasan Za'fari, the Iranian charge d'affaires in the UAE.

Meets Foreign Ministry Official

GF171336 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 17 Nov (WAKH) -- 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, under secretary at the UAE Foreign Ministry, met today with Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign affairs minister, who is currently visiting the UAE.

The meeting was attended on the UAE side by Ya'qub al-Kindi, chairman of the Political Department at the Foreign Ministry, and Sayf Sa'id, ambassador at the Foreign Ministry; and on the Iranian side the delegation accompanying Hoseyn ol-Eslam and Mahmud Sadat Madar-Shahi, Iranian ambassador to the UAE.

Bilateral relations, current developments in the area and the Middle East situation in light of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon were discussed during the meeting.

Meets Ash-Shariqah Ruler

GF172002 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1952 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Ash-Shariqah, 17 Nov (WAKH) -- His Highness Shaykh Sultan ibn Hamad al-Qasimi, UAE Supreme Council member and ruler of Ash-Shariqah, met here this evening with Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister for political affairs, who is currently visiting the UAE.

OFFICIAL MEETS VISITING HUNGARIAN TRADE MINISTER

GF151500 Doha QNA in Arabic 1330 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Dubayy, 15 Nov (QNA) -- During his meeting today with Peter Veress, Hungarian foreign trade minister, who is currently visiting the UAE, Sa'id al-Bannudah, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Dubayy Chamber of Commerce and Industry, discussed ways of expanding and enhancing trade between the two countries.

The Hungarian delegation inaugurated a 3-day trade exhibition in Dubayy yesterday. Twenty Hungarian companies took part in the exhibition to exhibit their foodstuffs and engineering, electrical and irrigation equipment.

RESIDENCE PERMIT REGULATIONS TIGHTENED

GF160944 Doha QNA in Arabic 0712 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Dubayy, 16 Nov (QNA) -- It has been decided that the residence permits of all individuals resident in the UAE but out of the country for a period exceeding 6 months will be canceled.

Col Hilal Sa'id, general director of the Immigration and Passport Department in the UAE, said in today's issue of AL-BAYAN: All the measures recently adopted dealing with residence permits and visitors' visas are actually an implementation of laws and official decisions that were put into effect a long time ago. However, the flexibility with which they were implemented indicates they were misunderstood.

CABINET REGULATES SUBSIDIZED OIL PRODUCTS

GF151115 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 15 Oct 82

[Excerpt] During today's Cabinet meeting, which was held under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister Hamdan ibn Muhammad, a draft federal law was approved. It focuses on regulating dealings with subsidized petroleum products. The law bans individuals from storing subsidized petroleum products or dealing in them in any form, except for personal consumption, and prohibits taking these products out of the country by any means of transport. The law also prohibits those who have permits to store these products from marketing them or selling them for any prupose other than personal consumption. The law states that those who violate this law will be imprisoned for 1 week to 3 months or fined from 500 to 100,000 dirhams.

PDRY

CHAIRMAN RETURNS FROM MOSCOW, BREZHNEV FUNERAL

GF171818 Aden Domstic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, returned to Aden from Moscow today after participating in the funeral ceremonies for the eternal leader and international struggler Leonid Brezhnev, together with Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president and commander in chief of the armed forces in the northern part of the homeland, and the accompanying delegation, in order to express the Yemeni people's sorrow.

YAR

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM MOSCOW, BREZHNEV FUNERAL

GF171920 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, and his accompanying delegation returned safely to the homeland tonight after a visit to the Soviet Union, during which he participated in the funeral services for the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev.

During this visit, the brother president also met with Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and conveyed the condolences of the Yemeni Government and people on the death of the late leader Leonid Brezhnev [word indistinct] the (?firm) relations between the two friendly countries and peoples.

The brother president leader and the secretary general of the General People's Congress was recieved at the airport by 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, chairman of the People's Constituent Assembly and member of the Permanent Committee; Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, prime minister and member of the Permanent Committee; Lt Col 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of staff and member of the Permanent Committee; a number of brother members in the [word indistinct] Executive Council, Permanent Committee and General People's Congress; and high-ranking civilian and military officials.

'ALI INTERVIEWED BY AL-AKHBAR ON U.S. VISIT

PM171655 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 15 Nov 82 p 4

[Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, interviewed by Hadiyah ash-Sharbini in Washington -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The timing of your visit to the United States was significant this time because it followed the visit to Washington by the seven-member committee emanating from the Fes summit conference. Have you noticed any change in the U.S. attitude on this third visit of yours, as regards understanding the Arab, and particularly the Egyptian views on the Middle East question, and are U.S.-Israeli relations really tense?

[Answer] My visit to Washington last July was immediately followed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's initiative. This indicates that the United States has begun to adopt an attitude which brings closer together and boosts the efforts to promote a settlement. The Fes conference was then held and it in turn gave a boost to the Arab position on peace. There is no doubt that as a result of these two initiatives, the atmosphere is now more suitable than before for the movement toward a peaceful settlement. However, Israel's intransigence in regard to the Reagan initiative and its declared intention of building more settlements, undoubtedly causes some kind of confrontation between the United States and Israel which I believe, affects the U.S. attitude as a whole. We must not rely on this, however. What is important is that all sides sit together around the negotiating table so the settlement efforts may really move on.

[Question] You met in Paris with PLO or Fatah representatives. They asked you to explain the PLO's position to the United States -- the reference being to guarantees not conditions, as you pointed out in your press conference yesterday. What are these guarantees?

[Answer] During my meeting with the representatives of the PLO, or rather of Fatah, they presented all their ideas on the quesiton of the peace process. In principle, and in accordance with the Fes summit resolutions, they fully support the efforts for a peaceful settlement and they want these efforts to really be set in motion. The guarantees they asked of the United States were guarantees that the PLO would have a role in the settlement of all aspects of the Palestinian question. This is why we have asked the U.S. side to provide such guarantees or begin a dialogue with the PLO. We have indeed conveyed their views to the U.S. administration.

[Question] Was it suggested to the U.S. administration that the dialogue should begin wihout prior conditions?

[Answer] This is the idea presented by Egypt to the U.S. administration. We have received the U.S. reaction and I conveyed it to the Palestinian side yesterday evening. There is no doubt, however, that the U.S. position is governed by certain principles which, in brief, are: insistence on the Reagan initiative; a need to give fresh impetus to the negotiations, with some importance attached to having all sides concerned around the negotiating table; and an assertion that the PLO must recognize Israel because this would be a boost not only to the United States, but also to the Arab states and Israel and would enable them to go to the negotiating table.

[Question] It has been said by more than one PLO member that the Reagan initiative should include what is known as mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel, but the United States believes this is difficult to achieve and that it is difficult to get Israel to accept it. What is your coment on this?

[Answer] Naturally, the United States cannot give guarantees or approval on behalf of Israel. It must seek Israel's opinion on these matters. What would motivate Israel to go to the negotiating table is the knowledge that it would be sitting with states or sides which recognize its existence.

[Question] You said after your meeting with Shultz that Egypt was now willing to accept some Palestinians in Egypt, particularly since the U.S. position on the Palestinian question has now been spelled out.

[Answer] In a few words, this point is still under discussion.

[Question] It is a fact that the states of Western Europe acknowledge that the PLO should play a part in future negotiations. Could Europe play the part of mediator between the United States and the PLO with a view to bridging the gap between them?

[Answer] We should be crystal clear. The European role is an auxiliary role, not a main role, as far as this matter is concerned. The United States is the one that holds the cards of settlement, as we have seen in the Lebanese crisis and in the peace efforts. The European role is a catalyst. As for the possibility of Europe's playing the part of mediator, I do not think so.

[Question] During your talks in the United States, how did you find the U.S. position on Tabah?

[Answer] The U.S. and Egyptian positions are identical, in that the issue of Egyptian-Israeli border demarcation must be resolved, that this matter must not be left pending, and that it should be settled as soon as possible regardless of other negotiations. Furthermore, the United States believes that Israel's opening of a tourist hotel in Tabah was a violation of the agreement concluded on 25 April.

[Question] Is Egypt making any attempts for rapprochement with the Soviet Union, and is there steady improvement of relations?

[Answer] In principle, we are supposed to have balanced relations with all states in the world, despite the fact that we have special relations with the United States. The point is that if there is goodwill on both sides and the reasons which led to the estrangement disappear, the relations would of course return to what they used to be. It is known that the volume of trade between us and the Soviet Union is not bad. We still have trade relations. The relations between Egypt and the government in Moscow ought to be good provided there is no interference in Egyptian affairs.

'ALI MAKES STATEMENTS AFTER CABINET MEETING

NC171807 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1724 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 17 Nov (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that he will meet with a number of PLO representatives on Saturday within the framework of the contacts he held recently on the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian issue.

Replying to a question put to him by foreign journalists after a Cabinet meeting today as to whether PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat will be among the PLO delegation he will meet on Saturday, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Egypt is a separate matter and that his meeting will be with the PLO representatives who are actually in Cairo.

Asked if he can comment on the idea of forming a Palestinian government-in-exile in Cairo, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: I believe the PLO itself has not discussed this idea, at least not at the present time.

To another question as to whether, during its meeting today, the Cabinet adopted an important political decision or made any changes in foreign policy, Kamal Hasan 'Ali replied in the negative. He said nothing has changed and that he presented to the Cabinet a report on the results of his recent visit to Turkey, Canada and the United States. The Cabinet approved of the results of his visits and contacts.

Asked if the dispute on Tabah is nearing resolution as a result of the talks he had with the U.S. President Reagan, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said he is awaiting the results of the efforts which the United States is making as well as the contacts which are to be held between Egypt and Israel on this subject. He expressed the hope that, as a result of this, a date will be set for holding meetings at the technical level to resolve this issue.

GHALI COMMENTS ON BOYCOTT OF AFRICAN SUMMIT

PM171003 Cairo MAY in Arabic 15 Nov 82 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Statement by Butrus Ghali Yesterday to the Consultative Council of Relations With Africa"]

[Excerpt] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that the Egyptian Government's decision to boycott the African summit conference, scheduled to begin next week, was made after consultations between the Foreign Ministry and the Sudanese Government. Dr Ghali said that both the Egyptian and Sudanese Governments have decided, within the framework of the integration between the two countries, to boycott the conference.

In a statement to the Consultative Council, which met yesterday under the chairmanship of Dr Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim to hear the report of the Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee on Egyptian-African relations, Dr Butrus Ghali said that Egypt's decision did not mean Egypt was rejecting OAU policy or boycotting the OAU's work. The decision, he said, was against Libya's policy, but Egypt still cares about its OAU membership.

Dr Ghali also said that a meeting will be held with the African ambassadors in Cairo within 2 days to explain the Egyptian decision to the African states. He added that Egypt will attend the ministerial council's meeting in Addis Ababa next month and the OAU's 20th conference in Guinea in June next year. He stressed that Egypt's permanent delegation to the OAU headquarters in Addis Ababa attends all the meetings of the committees.

At the end of the meeting, the Consultative Council approved the report of the Arab affairs, defense and national security committee [as published] on Egyptian-African relations. The report urged the creation of an African common market nucleus, the formation of an African peace force, and the promotion of integration between Egypt and Africa in the field of military production.

AL-AHRAM QUESTIONS U.S. ATTITUDE IN MIDDLE EAST

PM180921 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 12 Nov 82 p 4

[Salamah Ahmad Salamah article: "The United States and the Crisis of Confidence"]

[Text] The problem facing the United States is no longer that of persuading other Arab sides to join the peace process. The real problem now is convincing the Arab sides already interested in peace of the U.S. ability to honor its promises and commitments on peace, or, in other words, convincing those who saw some positive aspects in the Reagan initiative that this initiative was not merely a U.S. pill to calm Arab feelings against what appeared to be U.S.-Israeli collusion in Lebanon, but that the initiative was an expression of a clear and irreversible U.S. policy. The need for this convincing is becoming increasingly clear because the gap between the policies and attitudes declared by the U.S. administration, and the administration's ability to meet the hostile Israeli challenges and disinterest in what the U.S. administration says about numerous Middle East issues, is widening daily. This has reached the point where we now see consistent and continuous Israeli policies met with shaky and intermittent U.S. reactions taking the form of protests, appeals, or just statements to which the Israeli Government seldom pays attention. When Israelis do pay attention, its attitude becomes even sharper and more violent. This gives rise to great doubts as to what the United States can or cannot do and what it wants or does not want to do. It also makes the current moves by various Arab sides toward peace -- as portrayed in the U.S. initiative -- appear to be a waste of time.

Recent developments have increased the general feeling that it is not always safer to wager on the U.S. policy in the Middle East. On three specific problems, Arab public opinion cannot see how or where the U.S. position was effective or caused change. The United States has for years been striving and competing to keep all other international powers out of the Middle East game on the pretext that only the United States can establish peace in this part of the world which is vital to its interests. By coincidence, all the three problems occurred in the same week, and each one gave rise to many questions.

1. The Tabah problem: It is a small area of Egyptian territory, confirmed to be Egyptian by all old and new international maps. Israel raised incomprehensible arguments about it at the time of the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai last April. Because Egypt did not want to give Israel any excuse for hindering withdrawal from all Egyptian territory in accordance with the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, a written agreement was signed, with U.S. participation, providing for both sides to withdraw from Tabah and Tabah to be placed under the supervision of the multinational force until agreement is reached on international reconciliation or arbitration in accordance with international law. Israel did not honor the agreement, built a big hotel in Tabah, and insisted on opening it at the beginning of this month. When Egypt protested and sought a resumption of the negotiations on this problem, Israel rejected the proposal for a meeting to be held in Ismailia to complete the discussions, and made the resumption of the negotiations conditional upon the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv, the revival of the normalization process, and discussion of other issues related to the autonomy negotiations.

Clearly, Egypt has rejected these Israeli conditions for many reasons. One reason is that Egypt refuses to have Israel dictate the date for the Egyptian ambassador's return, and another is that all the Israeli antipeace actions prevent the resumption of any negotiations to establish peace.

But what was the U.S. position on this problem? The U.S. Government supported Egypt's position that the Tabah problem should be solved through diplomatic contacts, but the United States -- which was a partner in the peace agreements and the Tabah agreement -- did nothing more. Nobody in Egypt or abroad has felt that the U.S. role and guarantees in these agreements have had any effect on the intransigent Israeli attitude, to change that attitude or solve the problem.

2. The settlements problem: In his initiative, President Reagan took a somewhat positive stand by urging a freeze or a halt to the building of new settlements and to the strengthening of the existing settlements. Israel, however, has ignored this clear and specific U.S. policy. A few days ago it announced its decision to begin building 5 new settlements under a plan for the construction of 20 new settlements in the West Bank this year. It allocated $17 million for this purpose. The source of these funds is known to everyone.

What was the U.S. reaction? The U.S. State Department issued a "strongly-worded" statement stressing that the new settlements would destroy Arab confidence that peace could be established. The Israeli response was that this is a problem for the Americans, not the Israeli Government. Both were right, but the Israelis were more on the mark because the Israelis are thus succeeding in destroying Arab confidence in the United States and its policies, and not in peace as such, especially because the United States did nothing about this problem for the past 2 years.

If the Arabs can do nothing other than call a Security Council meeting to discuss Israeli settlements policy, and issue a resolution condemning and deploring Israel, the question is: Will the United States support a resolution condemning Israel, or will it, as in the past, cast its veto or abstain? One is really not tempted to answer this question because in any case, the U.S. influence will still be lacking in what is needed to actually prevent the building of these settlements.

3. The negotiations about Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon: For weeks the United States has been making continuous efforts to bring about a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Although Shamir's talks in Washington and, later, Al-Jumayyil's talks, apparently laid the foundations for an agreement to begin negotiations on Israeli withdrawal in order to enable simultaneous Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal, Israel is still placing obstacles and more obstacles in the way of Israeli-Lebanese negotiations on withdrawal. Every day, U.S. envoy Morris Draper makes a new statement about the resumption and suspension of his mission and about new Israeli conditions.

The continuation of the troubled situation in Lebanon and the charges the Phalangists are beginning to level against their former Israeli allies -- of being behind the clashes with the Druze -- give rise to the following urgent question: What are the United States, the U.S. Marines and the Italian and French forces doing in Lebanon? Approximately 1 month has elapsed since the cease-fire, but there has been no progress on the question of Israeli withdrawal.

The U.S. policy on these three problems is clearly in conflict with the Israeli position, but the United States is not moving in a way that would give the impression that it is capable of effecting change and influencing the course of events. Israel is moving in the opposite direction and is paying no attention to the views of its major ally. This contradiction has aroused and still arouses the suspicion of the Palestinians, ever since Philip Habib gave U.S. guarantees to the Palestinians before they left Beirut. Those guarantees did not stand the test and the bloody massacre occurred.

The Arabs have blamed the Soviets for supporting all Arab causes and rights only in theory and in words. What I fear most is to see the U.S. attitude turn into a Soviet attitude.

MUBARAK MEETS 3D ARMY OFFICERS, MEN 17 NOVEMBER

NC171437 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1407 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Suez, 17 Nov (MENA) -- At noon today, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak met with the commanders, officers, NCO's and men of the 3D Field Army.

The meeting, which took place in a military position south of Suez, was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, 3D Army commander Maj Gen Tahsin Shanan, army Chief of Staff Maj Gen Fu'ad Salih Zaki and officers and men of the 3D Field Army.

During the meeting, which lasted for over 2 and 1/2 hours, President Mubarak answered all the questions and queries put to him by his sons, the officers and soldiers, on a number of domestic and foreign issues.

The officers and men showed full understanding of the president's explanations during the meeting and his answers to their questions -- answers which were characterized by truthfulness, frankness and clarity.

Maj Gen Tahsin Shanan had begun the meeting with a short speech in which he stressed that the armed forces stand in one line behind their supreme commander. He also addressed a greeting to President Mubarak for his courageous stand during the barbaric aggression against Lebanon. He said the peace treaty will never restrict Egypt to stand on the side of right and justice.

Major General Shanan emphasized the 3D Army officers and men's devotion to the service of the homeland, their respect for military orders and traditions, and their preparedness on the highest level of combat capability so the political and military command will succeed in waging any battle.

RAMADAN SAYS IRANIANS MUST EXPECT NO MERCY

JN172017 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and Popular Army commander in chief, has stated that our people's unity and their rallying around the leadership of President Saddam Husayn have resulted in achieving the greatest victories over the rancorous Iranian regime, which is backed by imperialism, Zionism and those who claim to be Arabs, such as traitors Hafiz al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi.

In a speech during his visit to a training camp in one of the areas of the Baghdad-Ar-Rusafah command, Brother Taha Yasin Ramadan said that despite its huge troop concentrations and the military hardware that it receives from the Zionist entity and the forces of imperialism in the region, the rancorous and ignorant enemy has been dealt the heaviest blows at the hands of our valiant armed forces during the recent battles in the Maysan and Mandali sectors, where the enemy sustained thousands of killed and large numbers of military hardware destroyed.

He added that the rancorous Iranian regime must not expect any mercy in future battles from the valiant Iraqi Armed Forces, because the Iraqis are fighting in defense of the land and dignity against the ill-wind which is coming from Qom and Tehran and because this regime has rejected all peaceful efforts and persisted in its aggression against the sovereignty of our international borders and against our peaceful cities.

Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the determination of the great Iraqi people in confronting the Iranian regime's aggression, which stems from their firm belief in the unity of the people and their faith in the wise and historic leadership, will not abate before the aggression of the Iranian regime, regardless of their numbers or the support they may receive from the enemies, until complete victory is achieved over the ignorant Khomeyniite clique, whose thirst for blood makes it push the Iranian people into the crematorium of death for the simple reason that it wants to entrench its position in power.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 906

JN171730 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1640 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Nov (INA) -- An Iraqi military communique issued here this evening states that, yesterday evening and today, the enemy sustained 212 killed, many wounded and a number of its weapons and equipment destroyed on the battlefield.

The communique issued by the Armed Forces General Command adds that our forward units struck enemy units in the central sector with all kinds of weapons and destroyed one vehicle, one 106-mm gun, a large number of weapons and military hardware an one observation post.

The communique states that air force helicopters today carried out effective raids and attacks against the enemy's concentrations and positions in the Maysan theater of operations, scoring direct and accurate hits. All our helicopters returned safely to base.

The communique states that one of our forward units carried out a daring operation against the enemy's positions in the Maysan operational theater, destroying two tanks and two personnel carriers and one tank in the east Basra sector.

The communique states that the Iranian enemy today shelled Basra and Khanaqin causing some damage.

The following is the text of the communqiue: Communique No 906 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate. With a steadfast and lofty people, a capable and courageous army and a unique leader, our lofty country pursues its just battle and heroic confrontation of the rancorous invaders and the suspect Khomeynite clique, which is panting after the colonialist and Zionist schemes in the region. The results of the activities in the various operational theaters are as follows:

1. Yesterday evening and today our forward units struck enemy units opposite their positions in the central sector of the battlefield with all kinds of weapons. The known losses amount to 212 killed, large numbers of wounded, and 1 vehicle, 1 106-mm gun, large quantities of weapons and military hardware and 1 observation post destroyed.

2. Air force helicopters today carried out effective raids and attacks against enemy concentrations and positions in the Maysan operational theater, scoring direct hits. All our helicopters returned safely to base.

3. One of our forward units carried out a daring operation against the enemy and its positions in the Maysan operationa theater, destroying two tanks, after setting fire to them, and two personnel carriers.

4. One tank was destroyed in the east Basra area.

5. The rancorous enemy artillery today shelled Basra and Khanaqin causing some damage.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 November 1982

BAGHDAD LISTS IRANIAN COMMANDERS KILLED OR WOUNDED

JN171108 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] A military spokesman has issued the following statement: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It has become clear to us that the losses in personnel sustained by the Iranian enemy during recent battles in the Maysan sector, as reported in Armed Forces General Command Communique No 905, dated 16 November, included several enemy unit and formation commanders killed or injured as follows:

Ayatollah (Kamaniallah Arham), commander of the enemy force that attacked yesterday
Malakli, commander of the Malik regiment
Hashemi Sa'd, deputy commander of the Malik regiment
'Ali Reza, commander of a Khomeyni guard regiment
Allahbakhshi, commander of a volunteer regiment
'Ali Rabbani, commander of the Musa regiment
Sadeqi, commander of a Khomeyni guard regiment
Hoquqi, commander of a volunteer regiment
Haqqi-Shabbasi, commander of the Haqqi formation
Mo'tamadi, commander of the Ya'qub company
Khan 'Ali, commander of a volunteer platoon
Jabri, commander of the 907th Gendarmerie Regiment
Riyahi, commander of a Khomeyni guard regiment
Khaddami, commander of the Khaddami force
(Khudari), commander of the (Khudarpur) regiment
Towhidi, commander of a Khomeyni guard regiment

TAHA MUHYI AD-DIN RETURNS FROM MOSCOW 16 NOV

JN162024 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2005 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Nov (INA) -- Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf, Revolution Command Council member and vice president, and his accompanying delegation returned to Baghdad this evening after participating in the funeral of the late Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev. Ma'ruf had also conveyed to CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yuriy Andropov and the Soviet leaders the condolences of President Saddam Husayn and the Iraqi Government on the death of Brezhnev.

The vice president was accompanied on this visit by Hamid 'Alwan, Foreign Ministry under secretary and acting foreign minister and Nabil Najm, director of the Foreign Ministry's protocol department.

IRAQI-USSR SOCIETY CELEBRATES OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY

JN172040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Nov (INA) -- The Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society celebrated here today the 65th anniversary of the October Socialist Revolution.

Dr Najih Muhammad Khalil, president of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society, wished the Soviet people more progress and praised the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Iraq and the USSR and bilateral relations, which are based on mutual respect and the two people's joint interests.

Anatoliy Chernikov, USSR charge d'affaires in Baghdad, then delivered a speech in which he stressed that relations between the USSR and Iraq are based on joint interests and the struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He added that these relations are steadily progressing in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

He reviewed the USSR's policy, which consists of establishing relations of friendship with peoples on the basis of mutual respect and the establishment of peace in the world. He stressed that the USSR supports the immediate end of the war between Iraq and Iran and the settlement of the dispute through peaceful means.

The celebration was attended by members of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society and several members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Iraq.

KING HUSAYN PARIS NEWS CONFERENCE CITED

LD171852 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Paris, Nov 17 (KUNA) -- King Husayn of Jordan described the meeting of the Arab delegation with the French President Francois Mitterrand as "very satisfactory and extremely [word indistinct] in terms of our joint efforts derived from our common efforts and objectives striving to establish a just and durable peace" in the Middle-East.

Talking at a press conference here Wednesday, the Jordanian monarch said he was "hopeful that the dialogue with France and friends in Europe will contribute to the search of peace in the Middle-East."

King Husayn asserted that there were areas for agreement on all points between the Arab delegation and the French Government regarding the future of peace in the Middle-East. "There may have been some difference of opinion on the form but not on the substance," he said.

The Jordanian Government is working very closely with its Arab brothers in order to achieve a "comprehensive peace" in the region, affirmed the monarch. He emphasised that a comprehensive peace in that area cannot be achieved if the Palestinians do not have a "leading role" in the peace negotiations, notably in the search of a solution to the Palestinian problem.

Referring to the Palestinians, King Husayn said that Jordan "has abided and is honour bound to the summit decisions taken in Rabat in 1974 recognising the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Speaking about the recognition issue, King Husayn favoured "some form of mutual recognition" between Israelis and Palestinians and their right to live in security and peace. Intensive diplomatic contacts throughout the world are being carried out to seek a solution to the Middle-East crisis before the chance is lost, he said.

"Our sense of urgency is derived from the fact that we have to remove obstacles from the path of peace in a very short span of time" said the monarch noting that the Israelis were intensifying their efforts on the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza in a bid to change everything, forcing people to leave and creating obstacles.

If the Arab world wants to win and achieve peace, it has to move as rapidly as possible, said King Husayn.

The eight point Arab peace plan, adopted at the Fes summit, calling for the withdrawal of Israel from all Arab territories occupied after the 1967 war, including the Arab part of Jerusalem, the affirmation of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the establishment of an independent Palestinian state, was drafted in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolutions, explained the monarch.

The Arab world is faced with the dilemma as to which Israel it was to recognise, if one speaks of Resolution 242 of the U.N. it obviously means Israel and the areas of pre-1967 war, said King Husayn adding "that is as far as we are prepared to go and I believe it is a very very long step."

Asked whether Jordan would play a leading role in the search of peace in that region, the king said Jordan was working in close cooperation with other Arab states.

"Unless and until Jordan is asked specifically by the Arab world and more specifically by the Palestinians to play any future role, which will have to be defined, Jordan (?is striving) with the rest of the Arab world to contribute its utmost for the establishment of a just and durable peace in the area."

King Husayn revealed that the French President Francois Mitterrand had accepted in principle to make a state visit to Jordan, the date of which had not yet been fixed.

King Husayn further pointed out that the Reagan peace proposal contained some "very positive elements" and expressed the hope that the United States would work for peace, adding that he will be paying a visit to Washington on December 21 for further peace talks with President Reagan.

The monarch affirmed that the Arab world will continue the dialogue to find a peaceful settlement to the Middle East crisis and indicated that he will be heading the Arab League delegation, with the same composition as the present one, to Moscow and Beijing at the beginning of December.

The Arab delegation led by the Jordanian monarch is scheduled to leave Paris later tonight.

BADRAN RECEIVES YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

JN171458 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mudar Badran received in his office this afternoon the Yugoslav parliamentary delegation headed by Nikola Kmezica, president of the Chamber of Republics and Provinces of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly.

During the meeting, which was also attended by Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni and the Yugoslav ambassador in Amman, a comprehensive review was made of the Middle East crisis, the Palestinian issue, and the peace initiatives to achieve a just and permanent settlement of the Middle East crisis.

The prime minister affirmed Jordan's firm position calling for Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied in 1967, and the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination on their national soil. He also praised Yugoslavia's position on Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian issue. He said: The Arab nation appreciates these stands by Yugoslavia.

The two sides also discussed the role of the Nonaligned Movement countries in achieving a just and durable peace in the region, its role in ending the Iraq-Iran war, and the need for Iran to respond to Iraq's peaceful initiatives. They also discussed means of promoting strong bilateral relations in all fields, and means of encouraging the exchange of trade and delegations.

Hasan Receives Delegation

JN171944 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received in his office this morning the Yugoslav parliamentary delegation headed by Nikola Kmezic, president of the Chamber of Republics and Provinces of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly.

His highness explained to the delegation the situation in the Middle East in general and the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular, more specifically the Israeli expansionist practices against our people in the occupied territories.

He also dealt with Jordan's role in the Nonaligned Movement, affirming the importance of this group's role in understanding the region's problems and its real attempts to establish peace. He affirmed that Jordan will do its utmost toward the success of the forthcoming Nonaligned Movement's conference, scheduled to be held in New Delhi.

His highness stressed the importance of bilateral cooperation in economic fields particularly, and the possibility of expanding the scope of cooperation in establishing joint projects in agriculture, food production, and the chemical and engineering industries.

The meeting was attended by Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni and the Yugoslav ambassador in Amman.

'ARAFAT APPOINTS MILITARY ADVISER IN JORDAN

JN180812 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 18 Nov 82 p 1

[Text] Amman, (AD-DUSTUR) -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has decided to appoint Staff Brig Gen Nihad Nusaybah as military adviser to the commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces in Jordan as of the 16th of this month.

AL-JUMAYYIL ADDRESSES CABINET ON SAUDI SUPPORT

NC172108 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has emphasized that Saudi Arabia has affirmed its support for Lebanon in all instances and in all domains, particularly in connection with the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanese territory. Saudi Arabia is also backing the process of salvation and construction in Lebanon.

The president made the above affirmation at the Cabinet meeting held at 1800 today under the chairmanship of President al-Jumayyil and in the presence of Prime Minister al-Wazzan and the ministers.

The session lasted until 2050. Afterward, Secretary General of the Cabinet Dr 'Umar al-Missayki read the following statement: At the beginning of the session, His Excellency President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil forwarded a written report on the state visit he made to Saudi Arabia at the invitation of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and at the head of a delegation that included His Excellency Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, the foreign and expatriates affairs minister, and the minister of health and social affairs.

His excellency the president briefed the Cabinet on the meetings and the working sessions that were held during this visit. He noted the generous hospitality accorded him and the official delegation by his majesty the Saudi monarch and the senior officials of the kingdom. The president also mentioned the results produced by the Saudi-Lebanese talks in connection with the affirmation by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of its support for Lebanon in all instances and domains, particularly in connection with the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanese territory, and in connection with the backing of the process of salvation and construction in Lebanon.

Afterward, the Cabinet discussed the general situation prevailing in the country. It took note of the measures being taken in this respect, whether to expedite the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in light of the contacts and discussions held by U.S. envoy Ambassador Morris Draper with the Israeli side, or to deal with the security situation in the two areas of Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh in light of the contacts being held in this respect with the national and responsible leaderships. The Cabinet noted the attempts to induce these leaderships to contribute to the restoration of security to these areas and to the reunification of the citizens' ranks.

The Cabinet then discussed the projects and topics on its agenda and made the appropriate decisions on them. The Cabinet also endorsed a draft-decree, referring to the judiciary council the case of the attack against the state's internal security in Beirut on 14 September 1982 -- an attack that resulted in the death of His Excellency President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil.

More on Cabinet Meeting

NC180824 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Excerpts] The written report the president of the republic read at the beginning of the Cabinet session contained four important points:

1. The crystallization of the special relationship between Lebanon and Saudi Arabia in the practical steps that define the kingdom's role in the current phase, and also define Lebanon's course in the political moves with all the concerned parties in Lebanon.

2. The conviction of the kingdom and Lebanon regarding the necessity of Lebanon regaining all of its freedom and sovereignty over all Lebanese territory. There was also an understanding that Lebanon will build a strong and capable army.

3. The kingdom's developmental support in carrying out the reconstruction and ing in the capital and other areas. President al-Jumayyil pointed out that participation in the salvation of Lebanon has become an Arab need so Lebanon can play its positive role alongside its Arab brothers.

4. Informing Lebanon and the kingdom that Lebanon refuses to be an arena for terrorism and violence and refuses to be stabbed in the back of anyone. [sentence as heard] It insists, rather, on establishing relations with all the brothers and friends on the basis of mutual respect and joint aims.

FAHD ACCEPTS AL-JUMAYYIL INVITATION FOR VISIT

NC172146 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] It has been learned that during his visit to Saudi Arabia, President al-Jumayyil addressed an invitation to King Fahd to visit Lebanon and the king has accepted the invitation. The visit will take place at the earliest date possible.

AL-JUMAYYIL GREETS AL-ASAD ON NATIONAL DAY

NC172114 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil made a phone call to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to congratulate him on the 11th anniversary of the corrective movement in Syria. A terse [sari'] conversation took place regarding topical subjects in the Lebanese and Middle East arenas.

President al-Asad expressed his gratification with the political moves President al-Jumayyil is making.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES U.S. CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

JN171823 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a U.S. congressional delegation led by Lee Hamilton, [U.S. representative, Indiana], at 1215 today. The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, official in charge of foreign and Arab affairs in the People's Assembly, and U.S. Ambassador in Damascus Robert Paganelli.

Lee Hamilton thanked the president on behalf of the congressional delegation for meeting with them and congratulated him on the anniversary of the corrective movement.

Replying to questions, the president explained that several inquiries have been submitted to the U.S. administration on President Reagan's plan and that other inquiries have been made regarding the results of the Arab seven-member committee delegation's visit to Washington, because the Reagan plan does not present a complete concept of the solution and its principles. He said we want peace, but we must first guarantee the availability of its elements because even if peace prospects were good they are not enough on their own. He said there are nonnegotiable issues, such as Israel's withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967 and the rights of the Palestinian people.

The president explained that Israel is not interested in peace because it believes that it can, due to the massive U.S. support, defy international public opinion, U.S. public opinion and the U.S. Congress, continue the aggression and ignore all international resolutions.

The president said that peace is possible only if compatibility exists between the disputing parties. However, the continuation of massive U.S. aid to Israel prevents the existence of such compatibility at present and encourages Israel to continue the aggression. He said that despite Israel's aggression and its defiance of U.S. public opinion, the U.S. Congress allocates $3 billion in aid to Israel every year.

Answering a question on Lebanon, the president said that despite the displeasure of the U.S. Congress toward the Israeli aggression against Beirut, it was not able to halt the aggression. He said that Israel felt that it had the necessary means to commit that aggression without the support of the U.S. Congress. He said that what enabled and will enable Israel to commit aggression came from the United States.

The president added that the conflict that existed in Lebanon was a Lebanese and Arab issue and had nothing to do with Israel. He said that we and Lebanon are Arab countries and members of the Arab League, and we went into Lebanon in response to several requests, at the request of the legitimate Lebanese authority and by a decision by the Arab countries to end the civil war in Lebanon. We stopped the civil war and encouraged the disputing sides to hold dialogues to achieve national accord. Israel invaded Lebanon, committed an unjustifiable aggression, conquered all of Lebanon, destroyed its cities and villages and attempted to impose humiliating conditions.

The president recalled that Lee Hamilton visited Damascus heading a congressional delegation in 1977 and that he asked: What does Syria want of Lebanon? The president answered by saying: We want security and peace for Lebanon, and we want it to have its official institutions and army. The president added: We want Lebanon to have accord and security now, and we want its legitimate authority to assume full control of all of Lebanon. When the Israeli occupation is removed from Lebanon we will not make any conditions for our withdrawal.

However, if Lebanon needed our presence before the Israeli invasion, then its need now is more urgent.

Answering a question on the Iraq-Iran war, the president said: From its inception, Syria has done its utmost to end this war and has made contacts with some Arab countries in this regard to help in ending the war. However, Syria's efforts then were not fruitful and following thousands of victims on both sides and the massive destruction that was inflicted on them, the situation became more complicated than before.

DEFENSE MINISTER TALAS ON MILITARY CAPABILITY

JN180648 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Syrian Defense Minister Gen Mustafa Talas has criticized the United States, which daily proves its enmity of the Arab nation, and praised the Soviet Union, which extends support and aid to Syria.

Speaking on the 11th anniversary of the corrective movement that brought President al-Asad to power, Talas added: Syria is now stronger than at any time before in terms of weapons and its will to fight the enemy. Noting Syria's military accomplishments, he said: The development of our armed forces has exceeded all expectations whether on the level of modernizing weapons or that of our soldiers' combat capability.

The Syrian minister also said that strategic balance with Israel is Syria's only alternative in times of both peace and war. He added that Syria's demographic and material potential can make such a balance possible.

PRIME MINISTER AL-KASM: SYRIA HOLDS WINNING CARDS

JN172030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] A rally was held in Darayya today under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad. Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm represented President Hafiz al-Asad at the rally, which was organized by the party's provincial branch command.

Addressing the rally, Prime Minister al-Kasm said that we have all the cards of solution, namely the card of the steadfast and vigilant people and the card of the Arab nation. He added that these cards have always been the winning cards in the hands of every militant, fighter and revolutionary.

The prime minister said: When some people try to cordon off the course of struggle, progress and socialism in order to peddle the attempts that are trying to reverse the process of history, we tell them that these people are the people of men and will not let those who claim to be men plot. These people have exposed their enemies and will never allow them to find a place in our victorious unionist socialist march.

You all know, the prime minister said, that the current Arab state of affairs is critical and the plot is huge. The Palestinian cause has never been as endangered as it is now.

The Israeli attack on Lebanon, the bloody crime in Beirut and the killing of the Palestinians are accompanied by contacts and moves run by U.S. policy in order to turn the killing of the Palestinians into an integral part of the efforts to liquidate the Palestinian cause and employ various military, political and economic pressures on the Arabs in order to kill the nation's determination so the Arabs may eventually yield and surrender to the fait accompli. The prime minister added: However, we will triumph because we own the winning card -- the card of the people. No matter what the people lose, they will win in the end. All invaders and tyrants have been defeated, humiliated and forced to leave their Arab land. The prime minister added that the United States and Zionism will also be defeated in the end because of our faith and because victory can be achieved by faith, awareness, weapons and firmness.

Dr al-Kasm stated that we went to the Fes summit conference where we struggled under our president, Hafiz al-Asad. As a result, the conference prevented any concessions or retreat in favor of the U.S. policy plans. We stood steadfastly in Lebanon through our vigilant armed forces. We are still there standing steadfastly, challenging any aggression, because we consider the defense of Lebanon as a defense of Syria and, consequently, a defense of the depth of the Arabs. We are not alone, the prime minister stressed. We are being backed by all peoples, free and honorable men and the socialist countries, particularly the friendly Soviet Union.

HAFIZ AL-ASAD RECEIVES CALL FROM AL-JUMAYYIL

JN172136 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2110 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Damascus, 17 Nov (SANA) -- Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil had a telephone conversation tonight with President Hafiz al-Asad to congratulate him on the anniversary of the corrective movement. President al-Jumayyil wished Syria continued prosperity.

President Hafiz al-Asad thanked the Lebanese president for his congratulations, stressing that the prosperity of one country is the prosperity of both.

During the telephone call, the two presidents discussed bilateral issues. President al-Asad stressed that Syria will always be with Lebanon without any reluctance.

NO PROGRESS MADE IN SHAMIR-DRAPER LEBANON TALKS

TA180727 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Text] Israel and Lebanon are still at loggerheads over how to set about formally talking to each other. A lengthy meeting in Jerusalem yesterday between Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and U.S. mediator Morris Draper failed to produce a breakthrough on the ostensibly procedural issues which Israel insists are matters of substance.

Shamir reiterated to the U.S. envoy that Israel wants the negotiations with Lebanon to result in a "political" agreement, providing not only for withdrawal and security arrangements, but also for elements of "peaceful relations" between the two countries (in the absence of a full peace treaty, which Israel concedes is impractical at this time).

Because it wants a "political" agreement, Shamir explained, Israel is insisting right now at the outset on a "political format" for the talks. Hence its firm desire that the two sides' delegations be led by prominent civilian figures, and not military men, as Lebanon would still prefer. Hence, also its desire that the questions of "peaceful relations" be put squarely on the agenda.

Israeli officials noted yesterday that there are frequent and ongoing discreet contacts between Israel and Lebanon at various levels.

"The problem is," said one well-placed official here, "to pull the negotiations out from under the table and have them on the table, openly and officially." He was due to return to Beirut for more meetings there.

After the session with Shamir, Draper held further talks with ministry Director-General David Kimche and Deputy Director-General Hanan Bar-On.

Despite the dragging difficulties, Israeli officials say they are hopeful that negotiatons can get under way soon. Envisaged, apparently, is a round of preliminary talks -- although there is even a dispute over how precisely to define this.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem is preparing for the advent next week of top U.S. Middle East mediator Philip Habib. He is returning to the region with a wide-ranging mandate as U.S. President Ronald Reagan's personal emissary. (Reports from Beirut say the American negotiator is expected there this week).

Israeli officials say they understand his task will be to coordinate various separate and simultaneous negotiations -- the Israel-Lebanon talks, talks over Israeli, Syrian and PLO withdrawal from Lebanon, and eventually, resumed autonomy talks. Morris Draper and U.S. autonomy specialist Richard Fairbanks are expected to work with Habib.

Habib's initial purpose, it is believed here, will be to make progress on the matter of withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon. Israeli officials say there has been no sign of softening on the Syrian side. Israel for its part is ready for a simultaneous partial pullback -- by Israeli troops to the 45-kilometre line and by Syrian troops from the Ash-Shuf mountains. But as Shamir has repeatedly stressed this week, this can take place only after the estimated 6,500-7,000 remaining PLO fighters leave Lebanon altogether.

Top Israeli officials had warm praise last night for Draper's efforts, which they described as "tireless -- but thankless, as is so often the case in the course of a complex mediation."

PLO RESUMES POLITICAL, ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN BEIRUT

TA171058 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Nov 82 pp 1, 15

[Report by military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] Israeli figures are following with concern the reconstruction of the PLO's political and economic infrastructure in Beirut. Quite a number of Palestinian leaders have returned to Beirut in recent weeks and reorganization attempts are being made there, especially in the economic and political spheres. Israeli figures believe that Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will not interfere with this activity as long as no efforts are made to reconstruct the terrorists' military infrastructure in Lebanon as well.

The terrorists are trying to reestablish in Beirut the Palestinian Research Institute and some of their economic and industrial institutions and plants. The terrorists' news agency WAFA has already opened a small office and is planning to resume its activities in Beirut. PLO-supported banks have also resumed activities in the city.

One Palestinian leader, Shafiq al-Khut, who stayed behind in Beirut on 'Arafat's instructions, found refuge in Lebanese [Prime Minister] Shafiq al-Wazzan's home when IDF units took control in West Beirut.

It is estimated that along with their renewed political and economic activity in Beirut, the terrorists will also accelerate their activities in the Al-Biqa' region, in view of the fact that the Syrians are thinning out their forward lines (because of the winter), which might encourage the terrorists to take advantage of this fact and start operating in the eastern sector. Some time ago, a terrorist squad was captured in the Hasbayya vicinity, with katyusha rockets in its possession. The squad was planning to launch the rockets into the Upper Galilee.

Although the renewed terrorist activity in Beirut is carried out in secret for fear of the Lebanese Army, it has recently emerged that some 4,000 Palestinians were captured by the Lebanese Army in Beirut, with the help of the multinational force, and that most of them were exiled to Tripoli and the Al-Biqa'.

Senior Israeli figures regard it as necessary to sign a contractual security arrangement with Lebanon, in order to make sure that the Palestinian military activity in the country is not renewed.

MAPAM CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL TO 50-KM LINE

TA180558 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] The MAPAM party Secretariat says the Israeli army should withdraw to a line 40 to 50 km from the Israeli-Lebanese border and only then should negotiations begin on security arrangements in southern Lebanon. The MAPAM Secretariat also criticizes the government's policy in settling Judaea and Samaria.

BEGIN WANTS TO MEET MUBARAK AFTER MOURNING

TA171354 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Nov 82 p 16

[Report by Avino'am Bar Yosef]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has told Egyptian special envoy Mahmud Khalil that he wants to meet Egyptian President Husni Mubarak after the end of his mourning period. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told this to MA'ARIV. Shamir was present when the special envoy conveyed the condolences of the president and the people of Egypt to Menahem Begin on the death of his wife 'Aliza.

Egyptian Charge d'Affairs Muhammad Basyuni reported at the end of the meeting that it was held in a friendly atmosphere. The condolences of the Egyptian people and president were expressed and no political topics were mentioned. The visitors were impressed by Begin's pain and grief over his wife's death. Special envoy Mahmud Khalil refused to talk to correspondents.

The prime minister's adviser, Ori Porat, reported that Begin was very touched by President Mubarak's gesture in sending his special envoy; he was also impressed by the sincerity of the warm and touching letter he received from Jihan as-Sadat.

The foreign minister went on to tell MA'ARIV that the prime minister expressed a desire to continue the negotiations between the two peoples. Shamir believes that the prime minister will overcome his grief and pain over losing his wife and will go back to regular work and full political activity at the end of the mourning period.

Many people, among them Knesset members and ministers, came to the prime minister's house yesterday to express their condolences. Thousands of telegrams from all over the world were piled in the prime minister's office. Most of the prime ministers of countries having diplomatic relations with Israel sent condolence messages, among them leaders of Western Europe, South America and Romania.

The prime minister also received a letter yesterday from Jihan as-Sadat, who wrote to the prime minister about the beautiful days she spent with Mrs Begin during the peace negotiations and noted the great personal loss of the prime minister and the people of Israel.

Those close to Begin said he was emotional after reading Mrs as-Sadat's letter. He will send her an answer at the end of the seven days of mourning.

OPPOSITION, COALITION MEMBERS ON AID CUT REPORT

TA171925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] NEW YORK TIMES editor Max Frankel has reiterated that Israeli opposition leaders told him that the U.S. administration should put economic pressures on the Begin government to bring it down, but Alignment leader Shim'on Peres was not among them, he said. Frankel was speaking to Voice of Israel reporter in Washington, Shalom Qital:

[Begin Frankel recording] My articles about a visit to Israel were based on conversations with several leading politicians and government officials. As I wrote, I learned that many of the opponents of Prime Minister Begin's policies believe that American economic aid augments his political strength and is therefore underwriting his policy toward the West Bank. Thus, many of them wish for a reduction in that aid, though they feel they cannot safely urge it in public.

I have an obligation to protect the confidentiality of most of my conversations with government as well as opposition leaders, but nothing in the article justifies the conclusion that the leader of the Labor opposition, Shim'on Peres, gave me advice about American aid or that the views I attributed to individuals represent his party's official position. My conversation with Mr Peres was in fact held entirely in the presence of a Foreign Ministry official who kindly arranged some of my meetings. [end recording]

Israeli coalition and opposition leaders are still debating Frankel's allegation. Justice Minister Moshe Nisim said that Frankel's report was believable, but he questioned how opposition leaders could cause such damage to the country just to bring the government down. The Tehiya Party's Ge'ula Kohen has called on the Alignment to set up an inquiry commission to find out who made the suggestion that Frankel was referring to. Likud member Ehud Olmert has submitted an urgent motion to the plenum to discuss Alignment members' meetings with White House officials.

Meanwhile, in the Alignment camp, Knesset Member Avraham Katz-'Oz says he is threatening THE NEW YORK TIMES with a libel suit over the publication of Frankel's story. Katz-'Oz is demanding that Frankel say exactly who the opposition leaders were that made the suggestion to the U.S. administration.

One of the leading Labor Party figures to have met Max Frankel was former Foreign Minister Abba Eban. Alan Ben-'Ami asked him if any reference to possible U.S. cuts in aid to Israel had been mentioned at all during their conversation:

[Begin Eban recording] [Words indistinct] the main point, I am not sure that it arose at all; the talk was so short and so confused. But, in any case, if I did talk it must have been along these lines. I have a gramophone record which is so ingrained that if somebody were to wake me up by shaking me in the middle of the night and say: What about American aid stoppage? I would recite this gramophone record.

It never worked in the past; it never worked for anybody else in the past. I am sure that the effect of it would be to blow the whole thing up in the face of the United States if it were to exercise such pressure. I have said that to American representatives; I have said that to the American people. And, if it seems to be a bit artificial, it was my impression -- I do not have many contacts now with the administration; the only one I had was with Secretary Shultz about 2 months ago -- I got the impression that they were going to try to secure a positive interest in their proposals, but to do that by persuasion, by appeals to public opinion in their country all the time, but they understand that it would be counterproductive to try to exercise coercive or punitive measures. In other words, I do not believe that this is going to happen. If there is such a danger, I think the whole country should unite against it. [end recording]

Peres Comments

TA171959 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] This evening, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres told our correspondent that if the Americans were to use their aid to Israel as a means to exert pressure on it, the opposition would be no less opposed to this than the government. Peres does not believe it all that the remarks on this subject were made by any Labor Party members who spoke with THE NEW YORK TIMES editor.

On the other hand, Likud MK Roni Milo has called on Deputy Minister Simha Ehrlich to set up a statutory commission of inquiry to look into the identity of the senior Alignment members who, he said, have been persuading the United States to end aid to Israel.

Alignment Knesset faction chairman MK Shahal demands that Justice Minister Moshe Nisim resign. Shahal claims that Minister Nisim has vilely calumniated the Alignment faction and its leaders without examining the facts pertaining to the report in THE NEW YORK TIMES.

HADDAD TESTIFIES BEFORE INQUIRY COMMISSION

TA171158 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1050 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Maj Sa'd Haddad testified today in Jerusalem before the state commission of inquiry investigating the Beirut massacre that the Lebanese politician Sa'ib Salam was the one responsible for involving Haddad's name in the massacre affair in the Sabra and Shatila camps. Haddad said that Salam received a directive from Saudi Arabia to cover up the true perpetrators of the massacre. He went too far and accused me, Haddad said. The panic and the fear helped spread the rumor.

Haddad declared to the commission that not a single one of his soldiers crossed the Al-'Awwali River going north. He said that the three inhabitants of southern Lebanon who were involved in an incident on Friday evening, on New Year's Eve, belonged to a civil guard unit, and were not his soldiers. They are subject more to the IDF's authority than to my command, he claimed. He said that those three citizens too went to Beirut only to remove their relatives from the city.

Tzipori Testifies

TA180826 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] In his testimony before the commission of inquiry investigating the massacre in Beirut, Minister Mordekhay Tzipori said this morning that, on Rosh Hashana Eve, on Friday before noon, HA'ARETZ correspondent Ze'ev Schiff told him he had received reports that the Phalange were conducting a massacre in the refugee camps. According to Tzipori, he tried to call the head of the Shin Bet and the chief of IDF intelligence but he did not find them. Therefore, he called the foreign minister in Jerusalem. He knew that the head of Shin Bet, the chief of IDF intelligence and the defense minister were attending a meeting between the foreign minister and the U.S. envoy.

In his conversation with Minister Shamir, Tzipori told him: I have received reports that the Phalange are conducting a massacre. Tzipori asked Shamir to verify the report with his sources and the officials attending the meeting. The foreign minister replied: I have heard. From that point onward, Minister Tzipori did not handle the issue. He explained to the commission that he generally trusts Minister Shamir. He also added: Perhaps due to the fact that I have been depicted as nosy, I stopped handling the matter. Tzipori pointed out that he had not asked Ze'ev Schiff to specify the sources of his information, but he believed the source to be an IDF officer in one of the senior command posts.

Minister Tzipori went on to say that he had first heard about the entry of the Phalange into the refugee camps at the Cabinet session and that this had not alarmed him. He explained the reasons for it to the commission behind closed doors.

Our correspondent Ehud Klausner notes that in his testimony, Minister Tzipori emphasized that the Cabinet decision of 15 June could under no circumstances be regarded as approval for the IDF to enter West Beirut.

'SOURCES' DENY DUDIN TO MAKE OFFICIAL U.S. VISIT

TA180729 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Nov 82 p 2

[Report by David Richardson]

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Jerusalem yesterday firmly denied radio reports that the leader of the federation of Palestinian leagues, Mustafa Dudin, had been invited to Washington by the U.S. Government.

Dudin was apparently invited by several congressmen, including Democrat Representative Lee Hamilton of Indiana who recently visited Israel, to appear before a congressional subcommittee but not by the administration. Hamilton is chairman of the Europe and Middle East Subcommittee of the Foreign Relations Committee.

American diplomats active in the West Bank have refrained from any contact with Dudin or any persons involved in the village leagues which he helped to set up with the encouragement of the Israeli civil administration.

The radio report is said to have emerged from the Foreign Ministry and was intended to prove to Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon that his support of Dudin had backfired since the village league has endorsed President Ronald Reagan's peace proposals for the Middle East.

When Reagan announced his initiative, Dudin sent him a cable of support and made public statements of support.

At the convention of the Palestinian leagues in Hebron last week, Dudin again repeated his support for King Husayn of Jordan.

NAHAL TO ESTABLISH EIGHT MORE SETTLEMENTS

TA171046 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 17 Nov 82 p 2

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv -- Nahal plans to establish 5 outposts and three settlements in the West Bank during the coming year, the force's commander Tat Aluf [Brig Gen] Amnon Eshkol said here yesterday.

Two of the new settlements are slated for the Jordan Valley, and the third for Gush 'Etzion. Two of the outposts are to be in the Janin area, two in the Hebron mountain area and one near Nabulus, Eshkol told reporters.

SHEHORI ON LIKUD'S MISSED PEACE OPPORTUNITIES

TA151214 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 15 Nov 82 pp 3, 7

[Commentary by Dalya Shehori: "On the Honey and the Gimmick"]

[Text] There are general subjects, such as Israel's attitude toward moderate expressions in the Arab world, that do not receive the treatment they deserve from the media. Perhaps this is the result of subject fatigue. Everybody knows the subject very well; it has been written about from every aspect and nothing helped it anyway, so enought of it.

Nonetheless, the current military and political events, which are taking place at a murderous tempo, demand so much attention that no power and energy are left to sound the alarm when Husayn says something interesting or when certain statements by 'Arafat should be noted.

To this feeling of helplessness has been added another feeling during the years of Likud rule: a feeling of regression. In the years of Golda [Me'ir], for instance, we customarily heard that every moderate Arab statement was nothing but a "trap" and that all Israel wanted was peace -- so let them come to the negotiating table without preconditions if they mean the same thing. During Rabin's time, contacts and agreements were actually achieved with Syria and Eqypt. But the opportunity for an agreement or an interim agreement with Husayn was missed. Still, on the whole it was a time of contacts.

The contacts continued during Begin's time and reached their peak in the signing of the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. But since then, there has been a regression, not only relative to the times of contacts, but also relative to the time of Golda. Today there are more moderate expressions by the Arab states, and even from the PLO, toward Israel. But the official Israeli reaction is that it is not "a trap", but it is a "gimmick" and "psychological warfare." In this there is no change, or maybe even little change for the worse, because the number of Arab statements has grown, while the official Israeli reaction remains as before.

The regression is that today the government's obtuse reaction is supported by many. When Golda's government decided that Dr Nahum Goldman would not go in its behalf to Egypt, it found itself in the middle ofa public scandal (remember the letters of the eighth graders?). Today Begin can announce publicly that he will never talk with the PLO, even if it recognizes Israel and denounces the Palestinian Charter. And nobody protests. Everybody knows. Everybody has heard it and had gotten used to it. Is that true? They also agree. There might not be a consensus on this, but there is wide public support for it, which in part also includes the Labor Party.

This is the background against which MK Yosi Sarid (Alignment-Labor) decided to table a motion to the agenda on the subject of relations with Egypt. Last Wednesday he mounted the podium and said the right things, those that should be said, about the government's policy. His thesis was: Peace with Egypt will not survive if more Arab countries do not join the peace process. Lately there has been an awakening among the relatively moderate Arab countries, such as Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Sudan. This awakening has been expressed in various statements, explicit or implicit, on the readiness to accept Israel, to recognize it, to make peace with it.

Israel, instead of accepting those statements as a challenge, instead of extending its hand toward them and testing them, is hiding in its corner and delcaring: "This is a gimmick; Husayn is 34 years late; this is an Arab plot.

"You say it is a plot?" Sarid asked. "Where is your brain? On the contrary, turn the tables on them. Put the subject to a factual and positive test in order to uncover the Arab world plot, so that a situation will not be created in which the Arab world is depicted to the world as being a force of openness, flexibility and dynamic policy, while Israel presents itself and is slowly turned into a symbol of aggression, stubbornness and refusal."

Sarid noted in his speech a few of the recent moderate Arab statements so that in the mere fact of bringing them up one after the other a very impressive impact was created. Saudi Foreign Minister al-Sa'ud al-Faysal said in an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES: "The Arab countries were not ready to accept Israel before 1948. An effort was needed to bring about a change. A big about-face has occurred in the Arab countries in their readiness to accept this situation."

Saudi radio said last Tuesday: "The question now on the agenda is how the Arabs can present a challenge to Israel through a pan-Arab peace plan which will show how it is possible to live in this region under peaceful conditions."

And King Husayn of Jordan: "I said I recognize Israel's right to exist, and in my opinion it is ridiculous that the Arab countries did not recognize this fact for so many years;" "the question of Israel's existence is moot, and whoever brings it up is doing something ridiculous;" "Israel's existence cannot be questioned anymore...The problem is not Israel and the fact of its existence, but its actions, stands, complexes and hostility;" "I begged the PLO to recognize Israel and to make a great effort to establish a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. I think that the Arab world should exploit this time for a sincere and practical peace effort; following President Reagan's peace initiative."

The head of the Tunisian Government said: "Tunisia is ready to negotiate with Israel and even to recognize it."

President Ja'far Numayri of Sudan said in an interview in AL-AHRAM last Wednesday: "The time is now ripe for settling the Arab-Israeli conflict through peaceful means."

And what has Jerusalem said? The Knesset gave a live example without delay. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir mounted the podium, but not before calling to Yosi Sarid in an interjection that what he was saying was stupid. (Sarid said that the Israeli claim that every Arab initiative is a "plot" is really stupid and Shamir called to him: "This is the exact description of what you are saying." Shamir said that all this Arab commotion which we have been witnessing lately" has "one and only one" aim: to get Israel out of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and to establish a Palestinian state there led by the PLO. The word peace is hardly mentioned in these talks. It is used only as a slogan aimed at the outside world, in order to pacify Western ears. There is one and only one aim: to bring the United States to pressure Israel, so that Israel will evacuate Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, and so on.

How does Shamir know that when the Arab countries use the word peace they use it only as a slogan aimed at the outside? The answer is -- he does not know. But he talks as if he knew. He called the moderate Arab expressions "psychological warfare" and "Arab psychological warfare which is intended to mislead us and all our friends in the world, and we should not fall victim to this psychological warfare."

But the Alignment as well did not emerge unscathed from Shamir's whip (and not out of love). The Alignment, he said, acts according to the line it has taken lately, and in every case of disagreement between Israel and any external element, takes a stand "not on the side of Israel, of course." Pay attention to the automatic identification between "Israel" and the "Likud government." Shamir has once again added another layer to the public image the Likud is building for the Alignment as a group of traitors. And so the Knesset stormed, but only for a moment. They have become accustomed even to the wild propoganda of the Likud, and after all, Shamir is not Begin...

Yosi Sarid did not need a better illustration for his claims than Shamir's speech. Once again the old, uninspired expressions about the brilliant exercises of the Arab countries, which might trap innocents and friends, were aired. About the Eygptians, Shamir complained that "lately the Egyptians tend to explain their breaches of the peace treaty with Operation Peace for Galilee. Egypt had no reason to be surprised that Israel went out to fight the PLO."

So Egypt did not have a good enough reason to be angry. This was stated not by the Egyptian foreign minister, but by the foreign minister of Israel.

He wants them to be angry when he thinks they have a good enough reason for it. The Israeli bombings of West Beirut, which enraged the whole world and provoked the intervention of President Reagan, did not give Egypt "a reason to be surprised" by the Israeli actions. It should have known that an Israeli action against the PLO would include hours-long heavy aerial bombardment of the civilian population, and it should have swallowed this. And who is showing such obtuseness to the situation of Egypt? The foreign minister and nobody else.

But the height of Shamir's speech was the declaration that as long as relations with Egypt do not return to normal, Israel will not try to talk with any other Arab country. In Shamir's words: "And all those who talk and work toward extending the peace process in our region must stop and look at the condition of peace between Israel and Egypt and ask themselves: What is the sense in looking for new partners for peace if Egypt, which has arrived at the peak of the peace effort and signed a peace agreement, is today deviating from the path of peace?"

MK Shlomo Hilel (Alignment-Labor) wanted to be sure he heard correctly; he asked Shamir: "Did I understand from what you said, Mr Minister, that as long as Egypt does not go back on the statements you criticized, Israel, or the Government of Israel, does not see fit to look for other partners to make peace with?

Shamir answered: "In this I did not express an operational stand. I say that logic dictates that if Egypt, which signed a peace treaty, is not faithful to the peace treaty, what is the use of looking for other peoples?"

Hilel reacted: "This is warped logic." And this is the least that can be said about it. The speaker is not a common citizen who reads the papers, who pretends to understand politics like any Jew. The speaker is the foreign minister. And as long as Egypt does not conduct relations with him in exactly the way he wants them conducted, he will not talk to any Arab country at all. It is as if peace is a gift that Israel gives or takes away according to good or bad behavior, and as if the way the Arab countries act is an inherited or epidemiological matter. If Egypt behaves "badly" so will Jordan, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, etc. Can the foreign minister explain the connection? Thinking retroactively, why should Shamir not suggest canceling our relations with our great friend in the United States because France, who was our great friend in the past, stopped its friendship during the 6-day war? Why can only Egypt disappoint us in such a decisive manner?

The warped logic which passes as a silver thread through all of Shamir's speech made it clear how important it was to stop a minute with Yosi Sarid and expose the level of political thinking nowadays in Jerusalem, the iron logic of the Israeli claim and the total logic hiding behind the slogans of the Israeli wish for peace. If the signs of moderation in the Arab countries are a "gimmick," they do not have to be checked. And if Egypt does not keep the peace treaty (not for good enough reasons...) then surely Israel does not have to talk to other Arab countries. Aristotle, the father of syllogism, would have probably torn his hair if he had heard Shamir. This reminds me of an English joke I was told many years ago: Once there were two brothers and the other one also loved cheese.

PUBLIC POLLED ON ACCEPTANCE OF REAGAN PLAN

TA122015 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Nov 82 p 22

[Hanckh Smith public opinion poll]

[Text] In the public opinion poll my institute conducted in the second half of October, 62 percent of those interviewed (who constitute a representative cross-section of the Jewish population, kibbutz and moshav residents included) said that the Cabinet either fully succeeds or largely succeeds in handling security affairs (which is a 2 percent drop compared with the February poll).

Regarding foreign affairs, 29 percent thought that the government is successful, compared with 33 percent in February. This is a manifestation of the deep concern the public feels on this issue.

The subject on which there is wide consensus in the Jewish population is in nonacceptance of the U.S. approach toward autonomy and the solution of the Palestinian problem.

Regarding the question: "What is your position regarding the U.S. stance toward autonomy and the resolution of the Palestinian problem?" The answers are as follows:

Agree	19 Percent
Do not agree so much	20 percent
Disagree	45 percent
Undecided, no opinion	16 percent
Total	100 percent

About two-thirds of the Jewish population either slightly or even totally disagreed with the U.S. approach, while only 19 percent accepted it.

In view of the above data, it would be possible to say that there is in Israel a "consensus" in disagreeing with the U.S. approach on this issue.

This consensus disappears when discussing the Cabinet's position of rejecting the Reagan plan. Some 52.5 percent accept the Cabinet's position and 37 percent do not agree or greatly disagree with it. Among the population of European origin, there was greater opposition to the Cabinet's stand (47 percent) than acceptance of its view (43 percent). In general, the government supporters accepted its position and the opposition supporters rejected it.

The disagreement among the various sectors of the population stood out even more regarding Judaea and Samaria and the settlements in general. Some 46 percent of those polled accepted the Cabinet's view and policy toward the Arabs, while 42 percent either did not fully agree with it or disagreed with it. Some 12 percent were undecided.

In this respect, the sectarian differences were highlighted: 61 percent of those originating from either Asia or Africa (the Oriental sects), together with some 35 percent of people from European descent accepted the Cabinet's views. Disagreement, either partial or complete, was expressed by 53 percent of the Europeans compared with 28 percent of the Orientals. It emerged that on many issues there is a large Jewish Oriental acceptance of the Cabinet's views, whereas among the Europeans (with the exception of the U.S. approach issue) there was a greater tendency toward disagreement.

Great differences of views on these issues were found among the supporters of the two larger parties. While 71 percent of the Likud's supporters accept the policy toward the Arabs in the territories compared with 15 percent who do hot, among the Alignment supporters only 22 percent expressed acceptance, comapred with 68 percent who did not.

Regarding the settlements, the phenomenon was similar. The October poll showed that 49 percent of the interviewees agreed with the Cabinet's views on settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, with 45 percent not agreeing so much (and 6 percent who had no opinion). Among the Sephardic Jews, 61 percent agreed with the Cabinet and 33 percent did not, compared with 37 percent of the Europeans who accepted it and 57 percent who did not.

Some 74 percent of Likud and religious parties supporters favored the Cabinet's position; 80 percent of the Alignment and opposition parties supporters opposed the Cabinet on this.

The public is also divided on the application of Israeli law to Judaea and Samaria. Below is a comparison of the results reached in the October and February polls: "Are you for or against the application of Israeli law to Judaea and Samaria?"

Answer	October Poll	February Poll
For, and at once	19	24
For, at a timing the Cabinet will set	19	19
For, but unfeasible due to the current international situation	11	12
Against, because of the current international situation with the Arabs	9	11
Against, do not want to annex territories	27	16
Against, think this would be a scandal	6	7
Others, no opinion	9	11
Total	100 percent	100 percent

In the October poll, 38 percent were in favor of applying Israeli law to Judaea and Samaria immediately, or at a time the Cabinet would set, as against 33 percent who objected to such action. Some 20 percent supported this action, about half of them because of the situation. Let us point out that compared to February, in October fewer people were in favor of applying Israeli law to Judaea and Samaria. In February, some 43 percent favored applying the law at once or when the Cabinet decides to do so, compared with 38 percent in October. This marks a 5 percent drop. The percentage of opposition rose by 10, from 23 percent in February to 33 percent in October.

Apparently the aftermath of the Lebanon war is that the Jewish population evinces a greater degree of flexibility on the territory issue. The Lebanese issue was the single issue covered in the poll where the number of people who expressed dissatisfaction exceeded those who were satisfied.

To the question: "Are you satisfied, or are you not satisfied, with the way the Cabinet is handling the Lebanese issue?" 40 percent replied that they are satisfied; 54 percent were dissatisfied and 6 percent could not make up their minds. Of the Oriental Jews, 52 percent were satisfied, compared with 42 who were dissatisfied. Among the European Jews, 29 percent were satisfied and 65 percent were not. Of the Likud supporters, 71 percent were pleased with the way the government handled the Lebanese issue and 23 percent were not. Of the Alignment supporters, some 93 percent were dissatisfied (consensus).

In short, there is no dispute in the Jewish population over one subject: the U.S. approach to autonomy and the solution of the Palestinian problem. On other subjects, views differ.

The vast majority of Oriental Jews support the Cabinet's positions or even more stringent views. The European Jews are more moderate.

Coalition supporters tend to support it more strongly than the opposition supporters support their party; in the Knesset this is natural, but among the public this is an uncharacteristic phenomenon. Indeed, in the polls we have conducted in the past, we found "doves" and "hawks" among supporters of most of the parties, whereas this time the public split into opposing camps.

The interesting thing the October poll showed was that there was greater support for the Likud (in comparison with February), which stemmed primarily from the greater popularity Menahem Begin enjoyed and the one-sided views most of the opposition supporters held regarding the Cabinet's policy as it was reflected in their opinions on foreign and security policy. The polarization of views among the coalition and opposition supporters stands out even more clearly in the views on Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon.

MOROCCAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES IN TRIPOLI FOR OAU

LD161424 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, Nov 16 (MAP) -- Mr Abdelhaz Tazi, Moroccan secretary of state for foreign affairs, arrived here Sunday to participate in the ministerial conference of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) that began here Monday.

This conference is being held in preparation for the 19th summit of the OAU scheduled for November 23 in Tripoli.

Upon arrival in Tripoli, the Moroccan secretary of state said in a statement to Libyan news agency "JANA" that, "We came to Tripoli with the will to consolidate the African organization and to strengthen relations among African countries."

We hope, he added, that our work be crowned with success.

Mr. Tazi met on Sunday with Mr. Moustapha Niasse, Senegalese minister of foreign affairs and with Mr. Abdoulaye Toure, Guinean minister of foreign affairs.

Talks dealt with the agenda of the foreign affairs ministers of the OAU.

MINISTERS FAIL TO AGREE ON CHAD REPRESENTATION

LD171622 Algiers APS in Arabic 1450 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, 17 Nov (APS) -- The 39th session of the OAU ministerial council suspended its work this afternoon in Tripoli. Sources close to the session said that the morning session had failed to reach agreement on the question of the representation of Chad at the conference. The head delegates will meet at 1700 to resume debates on this issue.

The same sources said that a number of countries were still sticking to their positions this morning. Senegal, Niger and the Ivory Coast particularly insisted that Chad should be represented by the Hissein Habre delegation, while several countries insisted that the Chad seat should be left vacant, and that this question should be left for the heads of state to examine during the OAU summit.

On the other hand, well-informed sources said that after Nigeria's proposal was rejected, that country joined the countries calling for Chad to be represented at the council by the Hissein Habre delegation. In this respect, the Nigerian delegation called for the observance of Article 5 of the organization charter regarding the invitations to member states, recalling that the invitation had been sent out to the present regime established in Ndjamena, which is represented by

On the other hand, several delegations did not hide their deep indignation when leaving the conference hall in the face of the blatant maneuvers aimed, according to them, at yet another obstruction of the OAU summit after the considerable efforts made in order to consolidate this organization of the continent, and after the obstacles put up last August have now been removed due to the responsible position of the SDAR.

The same source added that the pretexts of those behind these maneuvers once again reveal who the enemies of the OAU are.

ALGERIA

CONGOLESE LEADER DEPARTS ALGIERS FOR MOSCOW

LD141602 Algiers APS in English 1017 GMT 14 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers, 14/11/82 (APS) -- The Congolese president, Mr Denis Sassou-Nguesso left today Algiers where he was seen off at the airport by Mr Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, Politburo member, prime minister as well as high responsible from the government.

President Denis Sassou-Nguesso is going to Moscow to attend Leonid Brezhnev's funeral.

During his short stay here he evoked the situation which is prevailing in Africa, particularly in Austral Africa, in the Sahraui Arab Democratic Republic, in Chad as he praised the historical decision of the Sahraui Government to voluntarily and temporarily abstain from attending the next OAU summit and appreciated efforts strived by the contact group. The President Denis Sassou-Nguesso indicated that conditions are gathered for the successful achievement of 19th OAU summit in Tripoli.

MALIAN LEADER MEETS WITH BENDJEDID, DEPARTS

LD171338 Algiers APS in English 1039 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers, 17/11/82 (APS) -- The president of the republic, FLN Party Secretary General Mr Chadli Bendjedid had yesterday political talks with the Malian head of state, Mr Moussa Traore in Algiers.

After the political talks, President Traore left Algiers. He was seen off by President Chadli Bendjedid as well as high responsibles from the state. [sentence as received]

BRIEFS

SALE BAN CRITICIZED -- Italy has protested to the United States concerning the ban imposed on selling it technological material it had intended to reexport to Algeria. Observers were surprised by the American attitude, especially at a time when Algeria is attempting to diversify its purchasing sources and follow an economic policy of nonalignment. [London AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 25 Oct p 2 p 11 WA]

NEGOTIATIONS WITH MOROCCO EXPECTED -- AD-DUSTUR has learned that Algeria has stopped, months ago, providing Polisario with weapons. This might be a prelude to upcoming negotiations with Morocco. [London AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Nov 82 p 13 WA]

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI DISCUSSES 'ZIONIST' PLANS FOR AREA

NC171130 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpts] The brother leader of the revolution [Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi] last night opened the first session of the Arab housing and development ministerial council in Al-Bayan al-Awwal city [in Banghazi].

In his opening speech, the brother leader of the revolution dealt with several questions and subjects relating to development planning in Arab cities and the need for making radical changes in the existing housing and development studies in line with the citizens' environmental and social circumstances.

At the outset of his speech, the brother leader outlined that he was opening the meeting not in his capacity as head of state because the government in the Jamahiriyah is abolished and there is no head of state. The people have replaced the head of state, the president of the republic and the government and created instead people's conferences and people's committees. He said: I am leading the revolution through the activity of the revolutionary committees, which incite the people's masses to exercise and affirm the authority. We believe that the whole world will turn toward the Jamahiriyah's system in the future because it is the ultimate phase in the struggle for solving the problems of democracy and power.

The brother leader emphasized the importance of this Arab meeting held in the Jamahiriyah being one form of the unitary grouping at the Arab homeland's level.

In this respect, he said, he feels the existence of a real danger to the unity of the Arab nation through foreign attempts against Arab nationalism, drawing attention to the need for resisting this danger. He said: If the deterioration continues and the enemy attempt to attain gains in every round is met by disgraceful Arab retreat, we will face the danger of the Arab nation's disappearance.

The brother leader of the revolution warned in this connection of the consequences of the hostile Israeli advance, which aims at the material liquidation of the Arab homeland. The seriousness of this advance is that it is taking place under the big umbrella of the United States, which is driving the Zionist enemy to achieve its goals against the Arab nation.

The leader of the revolution emphasized the historical fact that the Arab-Zionist conflict is one of survival, not of borders, and that Arab existence is incompatible with Zionist existence. He said that either the Zionist existence or the Arab existence would survive. He stressed that we cannot meet at any peaceful ground with the Israelis, because they are an entity opposed to the Arabs' existence.

The leader noted that the Zionist enemy is immigrating 12 million Jews to the Arab land to perpetuate its occupation of Arab territory and to liquidate the Arab existence the there.

The brother leader outlined that the Zionists are planning to increase their numbers to 15 million, which is more than four Arab countries, while now they are less than the population of any one of the Arab countries. The Negev, Sinai and other areas of Jordan and Lebanon will be developed to accommodate them. Subsequently, expansion will start, the population will be increased, the Arabs will be evacuated from their homes and Jews will be immigrated to the Arab land from other countries.

He said that the Zionists' goal now is to reach the sources of water. They are seeking to control the Jordan, Al-Yarmuk, Litani and Nile Rivers and later the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers.

The leader added that their first strategic goal is not the question of the Palestinian Resistance or the threat to the settlements but, after reaching the sources of water, to control the holy places and the energy sources. Of the holy places, they have occupied Jerusalem and made it, as they say, the eternal capital of the Jewish state. Their objective now is Medina, Khaybar, Tabuk and Mecca.

As to the energy sources, this question is subject to an agreement between the Americans and the Israelis. If the United States sees that the Israelis are better suited to manage the energy sources in the interests of the United States, it will allow them to control them in the Arabian Peninsula, the Gulf and Libya. If the United States sees that the Arabs are better suited at this phase to manage these sources in its interests, then this would hinder the Israelis in reaching this goal.

Concluding his speech, the brother leader greeted the conferees and said: I highly appraise this meeting and I am grateful to those who created this conference and the annual meeting. It indicates that this nation is still good. He expressed regret that the Arab League now calls only for the recognition of the Zionist enemy and meets only to sell honor and land, emphasizing that the Arab League Charter is obsolete, ludicrous and dates back to Imam al-Badr and Imam Ahmad [of Yemen].

The brother leader called on the conferees to safeguard and maintain the conference annually and to achieve further positive results in the interests of the Arab citizen.

100 ARRESTED IN FOILED ATTACK ON AL-QADHDHAFI

NC171047 Paris AFP in English 0945 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Paris, Nov 17 (AFP) -- Some 100 Libyan military and security officers were reportedly arrested early this month as they were preparing to attack a plane carrying Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, a London-based Arabic language newspaper reported today.

The paper, ASH-SHARQ AL AWSAT, said the attack, planned for November 4 when Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was scheduled to return from a visit to Yugoslavia, was foiled when one of the officers alerted loyalist security forces who captured the plotters hours before the plane was due to arrive.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's return was reportedly postponed two days as a precautionary measure.

Most of the officers involved, who came from the army, the air force and Libyan security units, were young, according to the paper.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi was said to have been wounded in the shoulder by one of his own bodyguards in an attack in Banghazi in June, 1980 and rumors of other plots against him surfaced several months earlier.

AT-TALHI MEETS WITH ROMANIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY

LD172012 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Jadallah 'Aziz at-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee [title as heard], conferred this morning with the Romanian president's personal envoy, who is currently on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

ETHIOPIA

ERITREAN GUERRILLAS CLAIM 15 NOV BATTLE SUCCESS

EA161932 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrina 0400 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] A combined force of regular fighting units and EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] people's militia has repulsed an enemy force that moved out of Adi [Tekelezan) to [name indistinct] area to harass and rob citizens. In the victorious engagement, which took place the day before yesterday, 23 enemy soldiers were killed, 30 wounded and 4 captured. Twenty-nine Kalashnikov assault rifles, 2 pistols, a huge quantity of ammunition, handgrenades and other useful items were also captured by our revolutionary fighters.

KENYA

GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY FACING ECONOMIC CRISIS

AB161750 Paris AFP in English 1733 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] London, Nov. 16 (AFP) -- Donors of economic aid to Kenya are to hold an emergency meeting here tomorrow amid reports that the East African state lacks enough money to get it through the rest of the week.

The meeting was called by the British Government, officials said, as banking sources suggested that Kenya might be unable to pay this week's fuel bill.

In the middle of last month Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi called for a loan of 309 million U.S. dollars, of which some 118 million dollars would be needed to bridge the gap in this year's budget.

Kenya's reserves in October were estimated at 1.9 million Kenya shillings (about 65 million dollars), the worst since 1976, and equal to less than one month's import bill.

The meeting, which will be on an 'informal' level, will be attended by delegates from donor countries to Kenya, including members of GATT (General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs) and OECD (Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development).

Representatives from the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) are also expected to take part.

A full list of those attending was not available, but it is beleived there will be between 20 and 24 officials, including some from the United States, Japan, France, Britain, Sweden, and some oil producing countries.

A further meeting is expected to be held in Nairobi "in due course", the sources said.

GABON

TRIAL OF 37 REGIME OPPONENTS RESUMES 17 NOVEMBER

AB171918 Paris AFP in French 1528 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Libreville, 17 Nov (AFP) -- The trial of 37 Gabonese opponents to President Omar Bongo's regime resumed on Wednesday before the State Security Court in Libreville.

The trial, which officially began on 10 November, was quickly interrupted at the request of several appointed defense counsellors who, a little before the opening of the debates, called for more time to examine their clients' documents.

The opponents are all being prosecuted for assaulting state security and insulting the president. They are mostly former diplomats, engineers, professors, journalists or ordinary civil servants. They claim to be members of the National Movement for Redress (Morena), the only opposition group banned in Gabon.

Morena advocates a multiparty system and denounces particularly the "mismanagement, waste, favortism and corruption" of the current regime.

The movement became famous in recent months especially through the publication and circulation of antigovernment documents and tracts in Gabon and abroad.

The trial, expected to last at least 8 days, is open to the public and is being conducted in the presence of an Amnesty International representative.

On Wednesday, several hundred persons witnessed the court hearings of the two first accused persons, Oyono Aba, a civil administrative officer, and Jules Mba, inspector of administrative affairs.

Heavy security was set up around the Justice Palace. Later in the day, about 10 demonstrators threw stones at police, but there were no injuries.

This is the first time, observers in Libreville recall, that the State Security Court has been convened in Gabon since President Omar Bongo came into power in 1967.

ZAIRE

LARGE-SCALE MANEUVERS SLATED FOR 17-23 NOV

AB171419 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1340 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Goma, 17 Nov (AZAP) -- Large-scale military maneuvers will be held from 17 to 23 November with the participation of troops from the 41st Shock Commando Brigade of Kisangani, now in Goma, and those of the 411th Shock Battalion of Rumangabo, it was learned Tuesday in Goma from authorized military sources.

The aim of these maneuvers, which will be held on the Rutshuru-Kibumba Road, is the defense of Goma from Kibumba. To this end, traffic will be stopped along that portion of the road on 22 and 23 November from 0700 to 1800.

MOBUTU CRITICIZES AL-QADHDHAFI'S OAU SPEECH

AB171840 Paris AFP in French 1504 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Kinshasa, 17 Nov (AFP) -- Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko has strongly reacted to the speech delivered by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at the opening session of the OAU ministerial council in Tripoli on Monday evening, in which the leader of the Libyan revolution attacked the United States, France, Britain and a number of African countries, including Zaire, without naming thelatter.

"Colonel al-Qadhdhafi should have displayed minimum intellectual, moral and political honesty by recognizing the positive role played by the recent summit of heads of state of Africa and France so that the Tripoli II summit could be held," the Zairian president told his principle aides at a meeting in Kinshasa, according to an official spokesman quoted by AZAP on Wednesday.

"When in a distasteful flight of oratory, the Libyan president expounds the view that the Kinshasa summit bore a colonial aspect, it sounds like a dream because this amounts to looking down on the venerable heads of state and government who met in Kinshasa from under the burnous," the spokesman went on.

"It is a piece of indescribable indecency, an inexplicable lack of tact on the part of a head of state," he added.

The spokesman went on to say: "Since the OAU was created, no head of state had ever treated his peers with such arrogance and such contempt. It is really a pity for Africa," he said, "and for Libya in particular that the next OAU incumbent chairman is what he is and does not have the qualities of moderation which are expected of everyone intending to enjoy these honors."

The Zairian official went on with his report by saying: "The future of Africa has undoubtedly unpleasant suprises in store for us. If the Libyan president's annexationist ambitions have the support of African countries, then this will mean the end of the continent's unity."

"But Zaire hopes that as on the SDAR issue, the African heads of state will return Al-Qadhdhafi to worthier feelings so that he will not go down in history as the one sowing division in Africa," he further said.

On the resumption of the diplomatic relations between Zaire and Israel, which the Libyan leader had severely attacked in his speech on Monday, the spokesman underlined that "Zaire's decision is an act of its exclusive sovereignty," denying Colonel al-Qadhdhafi "the role of a censor he wants to arrogate to himself."

GUINEA-BISSAU

FOUR FORMER TOP MILITARY OFFICERS RELEASED

AB160752 Paris AFP in English 0722 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Bissau, Nov 16 (AFP) -- Four top military officers have been freed after being held since the coup of November 14, 1980, Guinea-Bissau President Joao Bernardo Vieira announced yesterday.

He told a meeting in the town of Gabu that a commission of inquiry had found them innocent of accusations that they had taken part in mass murder during the regime of President Luiz Cabral, who was ousted by General Vieira in the 1980 coup.

The freed men were Colonels Arafam Mane (former chief military aide to Mr Cabral), Morgado Tavares and Agostinho Cabral d'Almada of the air force, Mateus Correia of the navy and a security official, Agostinho Gomes.

NIGERIA

EQUATORIAL GUINEA PRESIDENT CONTINUES VISIT

AB161758 Lagos NAN in English 1750 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Ikeja, Nov 16 (NAN) -- The president of Equatorial Guinea, Col. Nguema Mbasogo, arrived in Lagos today from Calabar in continuation of his five-day visit to the country.

He was received on arrival at the Murtala Muhammed Airport, Ikeja, by the vice president, Dr. Alex Ekwueme; the presidential adviser on National Assembly affairs, Dr. K.O. Mbadiwe; the minister of science and technology, Dr. Wahab Dosunmu; service chiefs and top government officials.

President Mbasogo and Dr. Alex Ekwueme are expected to travel to Ibadan tomorrow to attend the convocation ceremony of the University of Ibadan where he would be conferred with an honorary degree.

He will later pay a courtesy call on the oni [traditional chief] of Ife, Oba Okunade Sijuwade-Olubushe II, before leaving for home.

SENEGAL

TUNISIAN DEFENSE MINISTER BEGINS 4-DAY VISIT

AB161410 Paris AFP in French 1231 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Dakar, 16 Nov (AFP) -- Slaheddine Baly, Tunisian minister of defense, on Tuesday began a 4-day visit to Senegal by holding talks with Senegalese Armed Forces Minister Daouda Sow.

The talks were followed by a working session between the Tunisian and Senegalese delegations, and a luncheon was given in honor of the Tunisian minister by his Senegalese counterpart.

Baly is expected to visit the headquarters of the Senegalese Armed Forces and the police headquarters in Dakar before being received by Senegalese Prime Minister Habib Thiam.

ANGOLA

PRESIDENT DOS SANTOS RETURNS TO LUANDA 17 NOV

AB172146 Luanda ANGOP in French 1905 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Luanda, 17 Nov (ANGOP) -- Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, returned to Luanda this morning from Moscow where he attended the funeral of Leonid Brezhnev, CPSU general secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who died on 10 November 1982 in the Soviet capital.

President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, who was accompanied by an important delegation, was greeted on arrival in Luanda by the members of the party, the government and the diplomatic corps accredited to Luanda.

In addition to the funeral, the head of state visited the Angolan Embassy in the Soviet capital and held a working session with the members of its staff.

DEFENSE MINISTER RETURNS FROM GDR, CUBA

AB172202 Luanda ANGOP in French 1930 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Luanda, 17 Nov (ANGOP) -- Angolan Defense Minister Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale returned to Luanda today following a trip to the GDR and Cuba.

Talking to newsmen, the Angolan minister stated that the GDR and Cuba have reaffirmed their faultless, active support to the People's Republic of Angola in the face of the acts of barbarism carried out by the Pretoria authorities. He added that the dignitaries of the two countries expressed their great concern over the situation prevailing in the south of Angola and were ready to grant assistance to the defense of the Angolan fatherland.

While in the GDR, he held talks with President Erich Honecker on matters of general bilateral cooperation, and on the world situation, in particular the situation in southern Africa.

While in the socialist Republic of Cuba, Pedro Maria Tonha held talks with his Cuban counterpart, Raul Castro, and inspected several units of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces. In conclusion, the Angolan minister stated that the trip made it possible for him both to strengthen the friendship and cooperation existing between the armed forces of the GDR and Cuba and Angola and to learn modern war techniques which will contribute greatly to the defense of the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of Angola.

BUSH'S TOUR SEEN AS 'FAILURE' FOR 'DIKTAT'

MB161105 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The first part of the American vice president's tour of Africa amounts to a failure for the U.S. policy of diktat. This was admitted by George Bush himself at the end of his visit to Nigeria.

It was evident that Senegal, Cape Verde and Nigeria disapprove of the U.S. pretenses of imposing the withdrawal of the internationalist Cuban troops from Angola as a condition for Namibia's independence.

In the countries that George Bush visited he was unable to pressure the authorities to support the position of the Reagan administration and of racist South Africa which aims at linking Namibian independence to a matter which affects solely and exclusively two sovereign states -- the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Cuba.

A communique issued in Nigeria at the end of George Bush's visit referred to the distinct positions of the two countries regarding the independence of Namibia. The communique reaffirms that UN Security Council Resolution 435 is the only way of solving the Namibian issue.

DOS SANTOS 11 NOV SPEECH DETAILS DAMAGE BY RSA

AB171824 Luanda ANGOP in French 1500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Luanda, 17 Nov (ANGOP) -- The South African Army has so far inflicted on Angola damages approximating $10 billion, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the president of the People's Republic of Angola, stated last Thursday, 11 November.

This estimate includes all destruction caused since November 1975, when regular forces of the South African Army made an incursion toward Luanda in order to place into power elements of the puppet organization.

In recent years, the South African Air Force has on several occasions crossed our border with Namibia to bomb targets of economic interest to cause selective destruction. All these criminal acts caused numerous victims, including civilians, as well as the victims of the recorded massacres in Namibian refugee camps.

The August invasion last year, which resulted in the partial occupation of Angola's Cunene Province, constitutes the most serious development in the undeclared war being waged by the apartheid regime against Angola.

Economic activity was brought to a complete standstill in Cunene Province, where state organizations dependent on the central government were undertaking projects to develop the agricultural and pastoral resources of the region.

Refugees from Cunene placed in camps in Angola's Huila Province revealed that the occupation forces took to Namibia agricultural machinery, light and heavy automobiles, herds of livestock as well as other property that will never be returned to their owners.

Costs and damages incidental to the movement of refugees, including assistance of various governmental and humanitarian institutions, are not included in the figures cited by President Jose Eduardo dos Santos in his 11 November speech.

The $10 billion only encompasses material damage, including bridges, roads and railroads rendered unusuable, factories and public structures destroyed, livestock slaughtered and other property belonging to the national heritage which was plundered.

This figure well illustrates the magnitude and gravity of the South African armed aggression organized from the Namibian territory illegally occupied by the Pretoria army.

This is the price that the imperialism is making the Angolan people pay for their open solidarity with the peoples of southern Africa who are still languishing under foreign domination.

ARCHBISHOP OF LUBANGO RELEASED BY UNITA

AB171347 Paris AFP in French 1323 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Johannesburg, Nov 17 (AFP) -- Angolan rebels yesterday released the Archbishop of Lubango, southern Angola, a Dutch priest and a French nun, the International Red Cross announced here today.

South African Red Cross official Piet Smit, who witnessed the handover, said the prisoners were released by the UNITA rebel movement in Angola near the Namibian border.

Alexandre do Nascimento, archbishop of Lubango, was captured "by mistake" along with five nuns, during a pastoral trip in the area on October 15, according to UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi.

Smit said the nuns would be released fairly soon.

Archbishop do Nascimento has remained in Angola under the care of the International Red Cross, while French nun Marie Philomene and the Dutch priest have been returned to their respective consulates in Pretoria, Smit said.

SAVIMIBI PREDICTS NO CHANGE IN SOVIET POLICY

MB151840 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Nov 82

[Text] The leader of the UNITA resistance movement in Angola, Dr Jonas Savimbi, says the death of President Brezhnev will not alter Soviet policy in Africa. Dr Savimbi was speaking at a news conference at the UNITA base, (Makusso), in southern Angola, after the exchange of two captured Soviet airmen. The two Russians, Ivan Chernetzki and Kolia Mollayev, were captured when their Antonov aircraft was shot down by UNITA forces two years ago. They were handed over to the president of the South African Red Cross. The exchange is being completed in the Zambian capital of Lusaka.

In an interview with the SABC, Dr Savimbi said the Cubans were intensifying their attacks on UNITA positions in southern Angola in an effort to place the MPLA government in a more powerful negotiating position. Dr Savimbi said this would also enable SWAPO terrorists to gain a stronger foothold on the border with South-West Africa. He said that attacks by the MPLA and Cuban forces were, however, being repulsed successfully by UNITA attacks behind enemy lines. UNITA forces were operating within 150 km south of the Angolan capital and putting the MPLA and Cuban forces on the defensive.

Dr Savimbi also announced that his forces had also blown up two strategic bridges on the main road between Mocamedes and Sa da Bandeira in southern Angola. He said this refuted allegations that South Africa had been responsible for attacks.

Dr Savimbi said the attacks had been part of an overall strategy to cut off supplies from the port of Mocamedes to the MPLA and Cuban forces at their main headquarters at the provincial town of Sa da Bandeira.

LESOTHO

LANDMINE EXPLOSION INJURES EIGHT ON BUS

MB161359 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] There has been a landmine incident on the Lesotho border with South Africa. Eight passengers on board a bus have been injured. More details from Brian Emeness:

The blast occurred at the small border town of (Gatlesaku) in the Butha-Buthe district. Five of the injured passengers were admitted to the Butha-Buthe hospital and later discharged after treatment. A 4-year-old child and another passenger are still in hospital, and are receiving treatment for back injuries.

Although nobody has claimed responsibility for the explosion, government officials believe it is the work of the banned Lesotho Liberation Army, a military wing of the exiled Basutoland Congress Party.

Brian Emeness, Capital News, Bloemfontein.

LLA Reportedly Responsible

MB161433 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] The Lesotho Liberation Army [LLA] has allegedly claimed responsibility for three recent explosions in Lesotho.

The South African Press Association reports that a caller purporting to represent the LLA claimed responsibility for the blasts. One involved Lesotho's minister of state, Leabua Jonathan.

The LLA is the military wing of the banned Basutoland Congress Party. There is speculation that it was responsible for setting a landmine on the Lesotho border with South Africa, which was detonated by a bus, injuring eight passengers.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL, DELEGATION RETURN FROM MOSCOW 17 NOV

MB171128 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] President Samora Machel returned to Maputo today after taking part in the funeral ceremonies of Leonid Brezhnev in Moscow. Marshal Samora Machel led a high-level delegation which represented the Frelimo party, the government and the people of Mozambique at the funeral of Leonid Brezhnev. On his arrival in Maputo the leader of the Mozambique revolution was welcomed by Marcelino dos Santos, secretary of the Central Committee for the Economic Policy of the Frelimo party, and by Jorge Rebelo, secretary of the Central Committee for Ideological Tasks of the party. Zimbabwean President Canaan Banana, who also attended the funeral ceremonies, traveled on the same plane that carried the Mozambique presidential delegation.

GOVERNMENT TROOPS CAPTURE TWO GUERRILLA CAMPS

MB171840 Maputo External Service in English 1800 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] Mozambican forces have captured two camps of the apartheid-controlled Kizumba bandits in Tete Province.

The provincial radio reported today that the camps were in Moatize district, which lies between the town of Tete and the border with Malawi. The area is also the site of a large coal mining complex and is cut by the road between Malawi and Zimbabwe, which has been the target of South African sabotage efforts.

The radio report said the army operation began on Sunday and was completed yesterday. It said the troops captured a number of Kizumba bandits and released some 200 local people who had been held captive.

The Mozambican forces are still pursuing bandits who escaped during the operation.

IRANIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION ENDS 4-DAY VISIT

MB171210 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] An Iranian delegation has left Mozambique after a four-day visit during which they discussed the possibility for bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries. The Iranian mission was led by the deputy minister of foreign trade, (Amini Fan Kahn), and included representatives of Foreign Ministry in a number of state enterprises.

During their visit, they met the governor of the Bank of Mozambique, the minister of internal trade and the minister of industry and energy. They also visited several factories and are reported to have expressed an interest in buying Mozambican tea, textiles, timber and tires.

The Iranians also proposed more exchanges of visits in the future with the view to increasing mutual understanding of economic realities in each country.

SOUTH AFRICA

PIK BOTHA, CROCKER HOLD TALKS IN PRETORIA

MB171408 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, and the American under secretary of state, Dr Chester Crocker, are holding talks in Pretoria this afternoon in what is seen as a prelude to another meeting in Washington next week.

Mr Botha will confer next week with the American secretary of state, Mr George Shultz, against a background of renewed efforts to resurrect the South-West Africa independence initiative on which today's talks are expected to focus.

Crocker on Namibian Issue

MB180800 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] The American assistant secretary of state for African affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, says that during his current tour of several African countries he has not gained the impression that negotiations on a settlement for South-West Africa have reached a deadlock.

Dr Crocker, who held talks lasting more than 4 hours with the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, in Pretoria yesterday afternoon, said that during his visit to Africa with the American vice president, Mr Bush, he had gained the impression that the parties involved wished the negotiations to continue. All saw in the latest initiatives the possibilities of a better future for South-West Africa.

SLABBERT, PFP POLICIES CALLED 'UNACCEPTABLE'

MB171559 Johannesburg DIE TRANSVALER in Afrikaans 15 Nov 82 p 8

[Editorial: "Influx and the PFP"]

[Text] At the Cape Congress of the Progressive Federal Party, [PFP], leader Dr Van Zyl Slabbert directed a sharp attack against the government's policy with regard to influx control. He described this policy as "public enemy number one against a safe and peaceful future for all of us," and he maintained that it is misleading to believe that influx control prevents people from moving to the cities of South Africa.

The PFP believes that influx control should be abandoned, but at the same time it is untrue that his party has no alternative policy, he said.

Dr Slabbert's alternative policy as he explained it in Port Elizabeth is however, dependent on the acceptance of the PFP's cardinal ideological view, -- namely that there exists only one South Africa, with equal rights of citizenship for white and black.

This, too, is unacceptable to the majority of white voters in South Africa, and therefore, all of Dr Slabbert's proposals are merely academic.

Taking into account the multinationality of South Africa, the government is, however, already busy with an improvement to the system of influx control.

Areas of friction are being eliminated. The provision on housing and procurement of work in urban areas have been set as requirements for the presence of blacks.

Clearly our South African cities cannot be allowed to become overrun. Furthermore, apart from the social and economic dangers of uncontrolled influx, there simply exists a political will that is set against a takeover of our nation.

ZIMBABWE

BUSH DISCUSSES U.S. AID WITH MINISTERS

MB171204 Harare Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The visiting American vice president, Mr Bush, has held talks with the minister of finance, economic planning and development, Comrade Chidzero, and the minister of industry and energy development, Simba Makoni. The two delegations discussed assistance to Zimbabwe and new areas of cooperation between the two countries. Mr Bush will hold similar talks with the minister of agriculture, Senator Norman.

This evening, the American vice president will host a dinner for the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe and government ministers.

Talks 'Cordial, Fruitful'

MB171709 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, will this evening attend a dinner hosted in his honor by the visiting American vice president, Mr Bush. Several government ministers are also expected to attend. Mr Bush has described his talks with Zimbabwe Government ministers, held in Harare this morning, as cordial and fruitful. Mr Bush held talks with the minister of finance, economic planning and development, Comrade Chidzero, and the minister of industry and energy development, Comrade Makoni. The delegations discussed assistance to Zimbabwe and new areas of cooperation between the two countries.

Mr Bush leaves for Lusaka, Zambia tomorrow. The American vice president, who is on an African tour, is also expected to visit Kenya and Zaire.

MUGABE CALLS ON U.S. TO SUPPORT RSA OVERTHROW

CA171446 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Nov 82

[Text] The United States has been called upon to support the overthrow of the racist regime of South Africa in order to create democracy and justice in that country. The call was made by the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, when he spoke at a state banquet given in honor of the visiting U.S. vice president, Mr Bush. Comrade Mugabe warned that if South Africa's apartheid [words indistinct] dismantled, the Pretoria regime will continue to destabilize the independent African nations. Comrade Mugabe thanked the United States for [word indistinct] $200 million [words indistinct]. On Namibia the prime minister criticized the United States for linking the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola with the granting of independence to [word indistinct].

Speaking on the same occasion, Mr Bush said his country was committed to the search for (?an effective peace) in southern Africa.